

20020731.qrp v02_n633.qrl.20020731

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 19:03:07 EDT
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 2633

QRP-L Digest 2633

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [131096] RE: Most Wanted States
by "Hap, WA3PTG" <wa3ptg@comcast.net>
- 2) [131097] RE: Get Ready to "ROCK-MITE" was Re: Rock-mite keyer- darn!
by "Dave Richards" <wr3i@earthlink.net>
- 3) [131098] Re: Most Wanted States
by aluscre <aluscre@neo.rr.com>
- 4) [131099] Re: [Elecraft] k2-100??
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
- 5) [131100] Purity of NC-20 output - How clean?
by Karl Heimbach <kheimbach@ev1.net>
- 6) [131101] coverting old ANALOG DMM to SWR or power
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
- 7) [131102] Re: Most Wanted States
by aluscre <aluscre@neo.rr.com>
- 8) [131103] Re: Purity of NC-20 output - How clean?
by "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
- 9) [131104] WTB Palm MIni-Paddle or Paddlette PK-1
by "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
- 10) [131105] RE: mobile power wire size?
by Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
- 11) [131106] RE: 88' wire - Conjugate Matching Demonstration
by Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
- 12) [131107] Rock Mite Nite
by "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>
- 13) [131108] IOTA Contest
by "George Osier" <gosier@twcnny.rr.com>
- 14) [131109] Stuff FS
by edkess@pa.net
- 15) [131110] Need 3 more cards for mw WAS....!!!!!!!
by "George Osier" <gosier@twcnny.rr.com>
- 16) [131111] Re WAS: WYO is QRV on 14063.9 at 0144 UTC
by Eric NM5M <res19m7g@verizon.net>
- 17) [131112] Things that didn't work (long)
by Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
- 18) [131113] Re: Things that didn't work (long)
by "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@cox.net>
- 19) [131114] Baluns and FIberglass Poles

- by "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
- 20) [131115] Rock Mite Nite Teams?
by "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
- 21) [131116] What's more fun than ONE instance of DSWTUN95 onscreen?
by "Bill, N4QA" <n4qa@hotmail.com>
- 22) [131117] FS: Ramsey 40 Rcvr & Xmtr, \$50ppd!
by RLucch2098@aol.com
- 23) [131118] BUBBA '02 Rules posted
by "Bob Hightower" <nk7m@extremezone.com>
- 24) [131119] Something simpler than AutoCAD 14
by "Trevor Jacobs" <kg6cyn@earthlink.net>
- 25) [131120] FS: Norcal 20a and SWL40. lower prices
by "Kelly Ellison" <kelman@sofnet.com>
- 26) [131121] Re: stores in Boston area?
by Paul Maciel <ak1p@earthlink.net>
- 27) [131122] Re: Something simpler than AutoCAD 14
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 28) [131123] Re: stores in Boston area?
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 29) [131124] RE: OT: mobile power wire size?
by Tim and Michele Groat <tmgroat@peakpeak.com>
- 30) [131125] Colorado 14er event
by "P.Ermisch" <ermisch@usa.net>
- 31) [131126] Re: Baluns and FIberglass Poles
by David Gauding <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>
- 32) [131127] RE: Something simpler than AutoCAD 14
by "Kevin M., KC8SFJ" <adverseyaw@twmi.rr.com>
- 33) [131128] Re: Something simpler than AutoCAD 14
by "Ian Wilson" <ianmwilson@earthlink.net>
- 34) [131129] RE: Something simpler than AutoCAD 14
by Conrad Weiss <radman@best.com>
- 35) [131130] I'm Baaaaaack...with Porta Paddles!
by "Doug Hauff" <dhauff@digitalputty.com>
- 36) [131131] Things that didn't work
by Bill Meara <n2cqr@clix.pt>
- 37) [131132] Re: MRX-40 input filter [toroid]
by Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
- 38) [131133] Re: MRX-40 input filter [toroid]
by "Leon Heller" <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
- 39) [131134] Smith Chart Use
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 40) [131135] Re: OT: mobile power wire size?
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 41) [131136] Re: Things that didn't work
by "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@cox.net>
- 42) [131137] Re: Smith Chart Use [Drafting Compass]
by Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
- 43) [131138] Re: Baluns and FIberglass Poles

- by "Dave Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
- 44) [131139] Flight of the Bumblebees - Preliminary Soapbox (Long)
by N1EU <n1eu@yahoo.com>
- 45) [131140] Re: Smith Chart Use [Drafting Compass]
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 46) [131141] Re: WTB Palm MIni-Paddle or Paddlette PK-1
by "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
- 47) [131142] Re: MRX-40 input filter [toroid]
by hubert.smits@btinternet.com
- 48) [131143] Results of last nights NEQRP SSB NET
by "Ronald A Pfeiffer" <Ronald_A_Pfeiffer@raytheon.com>
- 49) [131144] Re: Smith Chart Use [Drafting Compass]
by David Hinerman <WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net>
- 50) [131145] CQ Mike Duke
by <mgoins@usa.net>
- 51) [131146] Re: Smith Chart Use
by "Ian Wilson" <ianmwilson@earthlink.net>
- 52) [131147] My MRX-40 Rx
by "Leon Heller" <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
- 53) [131148] Re: Smith Chart Use
by "Leon Heller" <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
- 54) [131149] F.O.B. - 15 & 40m
by "ss lyon" <sslyon@megalink.net>
- 55) [131150] Wednesday Warble
by "David Bixler" <qrp@netins.net>
- 56) [131151] Items Needed
by "Gene Sailsbury" <gsailsbury@mobil1.net>
- 57) [131152] Re: PSK31 BW
by "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <z1au@arrl.org>
- 58) [131153] Re: Smith Chart Use
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 59) [131154] Re: PSK31 BW
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 60) [131155] FS Drafting Tools was Re: Smith Chart Use [Drafting Compass]
by "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
- 61) [131156] Dummy Load
by Jeff Davis <ke9v@yahoo.com>
- 62) [131157] RE: [131072] RE: Most Wanted States = *Wyoming*
by Brian Kassel <bkassel@mato.com>
- 63) [131158] Re: Things that didn't work (long)
by "Randy Randall" <randallr@healthall.com>
- 64) [131159] Yaesu FT-709R
by "Peter Shores" <pshores@socal.rr.com>
- 65) [131160] Re: Flight of the Bumblebees - Preliminary Soapbox (Long)
by Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
- 66) [131161] RE: [131072] RE: Most Wanted States = *Wyoming*
by "wilford lindsey" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
- 67) [131162] Re: Flight of the Bumblebees - Preliminary Soapbox (Long)

by Jeff Davis <ke9v@yahoo.com>
68) [131163] Is homebrew for you?
by "Glen Leinweber" <leinwebe@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca>
69) [131164] Re: SBL-1
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
70) [131165] Re: FS Drafting Tools was Re: Smith Chart Use [Drafting Compass]
by "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
71) [131166] Most Wanted States - a thought
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
72) [131167] Re: Purity of NC-20 output - How clean?
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
73) [131168] Re: Things that didn't work
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
74) [131169] Re: Flight of the Bumblebees - Preliminary Soapbox (Long)
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
75) [131170] Re: Dummy Load
by "Frank Emens" <femens@hiwaay.net>
76) [131171] Re: Dummy Load
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
77) [131172] Austin TX Summerfest Ham Convention Sat., Fri. is QRP dinner, Are
you coming?
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
78) [131173] Re: Is homebrew for you?
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
79) [131174] PLL and programmable logic
by "Leon Heller" <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
80) [131175] Re: Purity of NC-20 output - How clean?
by "Dave Fifield" <dave@redhotradio.com>
81) [131176] Re: SBL-1
by "Dave Fifield" <dave@redhotradio.com>
82) [131177] Re: Flight of the Bumblebees - Preliminary Soapbox (Long)
by Garie Halstead <k8kfj@ntelos.net>
83) [131178] loop skywire wire size vs strength...
by Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
84) [131179] K04WX - BB#6 Report (better late than never...)
by "Mike Boatright" <ko4wx@mindspring.com>
85) [131180] Re: Is homebrew for you?
by "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
86) [131181]
by "Tracy Markham" <tracy@bytemark.com>
87) [131182] OT - Windows 95 on floppies?
by "Doug Hauff" <dhauff@digitalputty.com>
88) [131183] RE: PSK31 BW
by "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
89) [131184] Re: Smith Chart Use
by Haines Brown <brownh@hartford-hwp.com>
90) [131185] Re: Dummy Load
by Ingo Meyer DK3RED <dk3red@t-online.de>

- 91) [131186] Tuning Suggestions?
by bennw7dx@aol.com
- 92) [131187] Re: Tuning Suggestions?
by "Mike WA8BXN" <hubby2k@hotmail.com>
- 93) [131188] Re: loop skywire wire size vs strength...
by Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>
- 94) [131189] Re: Is homebrew for you?
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
- 95) [131190] Newbie Antenna
by "Bill Coady" <N9LAE@amsat.org>
- 96) [131191] RE: Yaesu FT-709R
by Karl Kanalz <kkanalz@gceecisp.com>
- 97) [131192] Re: Newbie Antenna
by Bill ROWLETT <kc4atu@yahoo.com>
- 98) [131193] Re: Smith Chart Use
by "Pederson, Glenn" <gpeder@elnet.com>
- 99) [131194] RE: Is homebrew for you & cooking
by Karl Kanalz <kkanalz@gceecisp.com>
- 100) [131195] Re: Smith Chart Use
by "Pederson, Glenn" <gpeder@elnet.com>
- 101) [131196] Vibroplex FOLks - A Great Experience
by "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@cox.net>
- 102) [131197] Smith Chart Answers all questions
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 103) [131198] Re: Vibroplex FOLks - A Great Experience
by ken cubilo electric <kce@chartermi.net>
- 104) [131199] Re: Newbie Antenna
by Gary Slagel <gdslagel@yahoo.com>
- 105) [131200]
by dmaliniak@penton.com
- 106) [131201] Re: Smith Chart Use
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 107) [131202] Wyoming for QRP'ers?
by Doug <doug@ycsi.net>
- 108) [131203] Re: Smith Chart Use
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 109) [131204] N3BJ Fox Announcement
by "Alan Fryer" <N3BJ@hotmail.com>
- 110) [131205] Re: OT - Windows 95 on floppies?
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 111) [131206] Re: Is homebrew for you?
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 112) [131207] RE: [131072] RE: Most Wanted States = *Wyoming*
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 113) [131208] Re: Smith Chart Use
by Haines Brown <brownh@hartford-hwp.com>
- 114) [131209] Re: Vibroplex FOLks - A Great Experience
by "Michael Melland" <w9wis@charter.net>

115) [131210] RE: [131072] RE: Most Wanted States = *Wyoming*
by "John_Evans" <jaevans@codenet.net>
116) [131211] Re: [Wyoming for QRP'ers?]
by "P.Ermisch" <ermisch@usa.net>

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 19:18:19 -0400
From: "Hap, WA3PTG" <wa3ptg@comcast.net>
To: brian@iquest.net,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131096] RE: Most Wanted States
Message-ID: <HIEKL00DELDPNBOHKICHCEPACCAA.wa3ptg@comcast.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Would you believe my first QSO back in '70 was with a fellow in WY. When I
got back into radio in '98, my first QSO was with a WY station.

Hap, WA3PTG
Wilmington DE

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of
brian@iquest.net
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2002 11:12
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: Most Wanted States

WY, MT, DE, WV, and maybe KS

In my humble opinion.

HI is doable thanks to the HI QRP club!

>DXers keep a list of most wanted countries. It would be interesting to
>see the five most wanted states as far as the QRP-L ham community is
>concerned. I will post the results if the response is significant
>enough.

>

>Joe, K3CHP
>Frederica, DE

>

>

>

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 19:23:50 -0400
From: "Dave Richards" <wr3i@earthlink.net>
To: <rod@n0rc.us>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131097] RE: Get Ready to "ROCK-MITE" was Re: Rock-mite keyer- darn!
Message-ID: <FAEEKPCBNNDNKMGPIBKAEENCFAA.wr3i@earthlink.net>

Rod,

Very pretty work! How come my work looks like chain Saw sculpture in
Solder?

Dave

WR3I

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of
Rod N0RC
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2002 9:45 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Get Ready to "ROCK-MITE" was Re: Rock-mite keyer- darn!

OK Folks,

>From the horses mouth, Rock-Mites are ready to ship!

Now don't forget my "Rock-Mite file" website. View the site here:

<http://www.radioactivehams.com/~n0rc/rm/>

read about the site here:

http://www.radioactivehams.com/~n0rc/rm/Stories/The_Rock-Mite_Files.txt

Looking forward to receiving and posting your ideas and pictures on "the
Rock-Mite files".

73, Rod N0RC

----- Original Message -----

From: "Dave Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2002 9:34 AM

Subject: Rock-mite keyer- darn!

...
>
> And a piece of good news for the expectant crowd... I have plenty of
parts
> in hand and have help lined up to begin producing these in quantity-
we'll
> begin shipping appreciable quantities of Rock-mites starting later
today.
> :-)
...

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 19:52:52 -0400
From: aluscre <aluscre@neo.rr.com>
To: lejek@erols.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131098] Re: Most Wanted States
Message-ID: <200207302351.g6UNpLc14808@clmboh1-smtp3.columbus.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

After this discuss began I just had to do a log analysis myself.
Two caveats: I tend to favor working DX QSOs and I spend much less time
on 30, 40, 80 & 160 than on the higher bands
Here are my stats for lest worked from Northeast OH -- DE, NE, KY, ND,
WV, SD & SC
For the full details and band by band analysis visit
<http://www.qsl.net/k8zt/statestats.html>
The total contacts were 4200 + and include CW, SSB & RTTY (and a few
OSCAR 10 QSOs) and contesting (CA QSO party has defintely helped to skew
results) & non-contesting contacts. but does not include 6 meters and up
contacts.

Larry Cahoon wrote:

> Even the county hunters have their needs list - check out
> <http://www.cquest.com/cgi-bin/flynn/needs.bat>
>

> But to answer Joe's question I went back to the log and did a few
> quires. What you need depends on what you are trying to do. So here
> is a list of the three least worked states in each of several ways.
> All are based on my home QTH in MD.
>
> Total HI, AK, DE
> QRP AK, HI, WY
> QRPp HI, WY, AK
> 10 Meters IN, KY, ME
> 15 Meters DE, TN, WV
> 20 Meters DE,, HI, AK
> 40 Meters AK, MT, NV
> 80 Meters AK, NV, KS
> 160 Meters AK, MT,SD (I still need AK for WAS on 160 - I might get
> it if I put the antenna back up)
>
> Take the number with some cautions. That is the least number of times
> I've worked each state. For example I have DE in the log 20 times on
> 20 meters. So it really is not rare for me on that band. It's just
> that I've worked the other states more than 20 times on on 20 meters.
>
> 73 de Larry.....WD3P in MD
> <http://www.wd3p.net/>
>
>
>

--

|-----|
 Anthony A. Luscre
 K8ZT
 Stow, Ohio
|-----|
 Visit My Website at
 <http://www.qsl.net/k8zt>
|-----|

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 18:51:09 -0500
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
Cc: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131099] Re: [Elecraft] k2-100??

Message-ID: <000801c23823\$faa344d0\$4e100a0a@rohredt2000>

Its just not my week, run from the computer to work on a network, then come back to the computer.

Yes the preferred power measurement, which I also derived, squares the current times the load, (50 ohms).

Thanks again George. :-)

72 all,

Stuart

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 19:06:25 -0500
From: Karl Heimbach <kheimbach@ev1.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131100] Purity of NC-20 output - How clean?
Message-ID: <5.1.0.14.2.20020730184728.00b1a050@mail.ev1.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Gang,

Finished the NC-20 last Sunday and am generally happy. However, looking at the output on an o'scope, I was surprised to find it not as clean as I expected.

In fact, the transmitter goes unstable at the slightest tweak of either TC-8 or TC-9. I have the VR-6 set for 3.3 watts output at 14.000 MHz and 3.4 watts output at 14.074 MHz and have a reasonably clean and stable output. However, I am concerned that I'm on the "ragged edge" and the slightest change in antenna impedance or battery voltage could put me in no-mans land.

Connected to a 50 ohm dummy load with a 10X probe connected to my o'scope and alternately a frequency counter, I've seen outputs from 9.XXX MHz to 28.XXX MHz. I get the cleanest output (beautiful sine wave) at the second harmonic, i.e. 28.000 MHz to 28.148 MHz and similarly, get the more power at the second harmonic with the same amount of drive.

By tediously adjusting both TC-8 and TC-9 and reducing VR-6 drive to about 50%, I can stay within the 20 meter band without chirp and no discernible drift.

I've removed C3, changed L6 to 8 turns, changed L7 to 7 turns, and put 6 turns on the secondary of T2. Otherwise, everything else is per the

manual. The receiver is great, the AGC works reasonably well, audible frequency counter perfect, and the TICK-1 working per design. In short, I'm delighted with the exception of output stability.

Has anyone else encountered something similar or have a suggestion of what to check?

Thank you,

Karl - W5QJ

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 19:10:30 -0500
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: <dwittlic@apci.net>
Cc: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131101] converting old ANALOG DMM to SWR or power
Message-ID: <005c01c23826\$ae3f6c60\$4e100a0a@rohredt2000>

The original posting was about the mirror scale \$9 ANALOG meter type VOMs and converting them to RF use, by gutting all but the meter movement.

Of course, cheap digital meters are about \$9 now, but that does not make as good a SWR meter indication as the needle pointer of a analog meter.

The person posting about DIGITAL meter kind of got us off on a tangent.
72,
Stuart K5KVH

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 20:12:29 -0400
From: aluscre <aluscre@neo.rr.com>
To: aluscre@neo.rr.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131102] Re: Most Wanted States
Message-ID: <200207310010.g6V0Avc13175@c1mboh1-smtp3.columbus.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

PS for my DX and Overall Stats visit
<http://www.qsl.net/k8zt/stats.html>

aluscre wrote:

> After this discuss began I just had to do a log analysis myself.
> Two caveats: I tend to favor working DX QSOs and I spend much less
> time on 30, 40, 80 & 160 than on the higher bands
> Here are my stats for lest worked from Northeast OH -- DE, NE, KY, ND,
> WV, SD & SC
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>> is a list of the three least worked states in each of several ways.
>> All are based on my home QTH in MD.

>>

>> Total HI, AK, DE

>> QRP AK, HI, WY

>> QRPP HI, WY, AK

>> 10 Meters IN, KY, ME

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>> 160 Meters AK, MT,SD (I still need AK for WAS on 160 - I might get
>> it if I put the antenna back up)

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>> times on 20 meters. So it really is not rare for me on that band.
>> It's just that I've worked the other states more than 20 times on on
>> 20 meters.

>>

>> 73 de Larry.....WD3P in MD

>> <http://www.wd3p.net/>

>>

>>

>>

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|-----|
| Anthony A. Luscre
| K8ZT
| Stow, Ohio
|-----|
| Visit My Website at
| http://www.qsl.net/k8zt
|-----|
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Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 18:39:41 -0600
From: "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
To: <kheimbach@ev1.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131103] Re: Purity of NC-20 output - How clean?
Message-ID: <00e801c2382a\$c2f4a4f0\$6401a8c0@greyrock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Karl,

Another mod that might help is to reduce R80 to 18 or even 15 ohms. This helps to prevent PA over drive. This was posted by Gary, AA7MY on QRP-L in the NC-20 heyday. Here is how I fine tuned my NC-20 (again from Gary documented in QRPp Autumn 1999):

- o with power off solder a 18 ohm resistor from C-E(gnd) of the PA XSTR.
- o connect an antenna analyzer, such as an MFJ-259, to the NC-20 antenna terminal.
- o then sweep the band while adjusting the spacing on L6 & L7 windings, aiming for ~50ohms

More detail about this procedure can be found in the Autumn 1999 QRPp.

I did all this to my NC-20 and get 7-8 clean watts with a 13.8Vdc supply.

If your signal is chirpy, that's more likely due to a sagging voltage to

the VFO. Things to try: use a stiff power supply, use heavy gauge wire for the supply voltage, change U2 to a more precision device such as L78L08ACZ, again more detail in the referenced QRPP.

GL,
73, Rod N0RC

----- Original Message -----

From: "Karl Heimbach" <kheimbach@ev1.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2002 6:06 PM
Subject: Purity of NC-20 output - How clean?

> Gang,
>
> Finished the NC-20 last Sunday and am generally happy. However,
looking at
> the output on an o'scope, I was surprised to find it not as clean as I
> expected.
>

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 18:48:40 -0600
From: "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131104] WTB Palm MIni-Paddle or Paddlette PK-1
Message-ID: <010601c2382c\$03b6e6f0\$6401a8c0@greyrock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks,

Anybody have one they would like to sell?

73, Rod N0RC

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 19:59:27 -0500
From: Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: "'dodgeboy@mindspring.com'" <dodgeboy@mindspring.com>,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131105] RE: mobile power wire size?
Message-ID: <01C23803.9CA1C520.nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

My reference book shows #10 AWG at 1.02 ohms / 1000 feet @ 25 DEGC.

So assuming you've got 32 feet round trip, drop is

$V = 22A * 1.02 * (32/1000)$ or 0.718 volts. (Resistance is 0.0326 ohms)

So I think the other suggestions I've already seen are your best bet--contact resistance and the fuseholder and other connectors. And is your engine running while all this is going on? If not, I'll bet the 22 A is pulling the battery down, as someone also suggested.

I recently put in a mobile installation for my IC-706. Used about that much #10 AWG and it works fine.

72 & GL-

Nick, WA5BDU

-----Original Message-----

From: Dave Benham [SMTP:dodgeboy@mindspring.com]
Sent: Monday, July 29, 2002 11:22 PM
He has #10 wire
(stranded copper, not solid) going from the battery to the rear where the radio body is. At a theoretical 22 amps max, he is getting less than 11 volts at the rig which sometimes causes control problems or to even drop out totally. He has about a 16 foot run of #10 wire.

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 20:00:19 -0500
From: Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131106] RE: 88' wire - Conjugate Matching Demonstration

Message-ID: <01C23803.BBCC9740.nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Only if it's been resolved to the satisfaction of the participants.

72--Nick, WA5BDU

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill ROWLETT [SMTP:kc4atu@yahoo.com]

Can we let this one die already.

Bill kc4atu

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 05:51:20 -0700
From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131107] Rock Mite Nite
Message-ID: <007e01c237c7\$d07bf780\$4a0b0d0a@dph.dpol.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

We will have a special operating and building contest on Friday night at Pacificon this year. Teams will build and operate Rock Mites on Friday night. More details to follow, but basically teams will be formed to build a Rock Mite in a predrilled case (made from PC Board instead of Altoids tins) that they will also have to build. When they get the rig built and working in the case, they will then have to copy a code word from a station operating in the room, and send the code word back to the station. There will be 4 members per team.

Teams will also have to supply their own antenna, and it has a restriction of 6', but can be pre built and brought to the event.

10 kits will be supplied by NorCal and Dave Benson, so we will have 10 teams in the event. Should be fun. Pacificon will be held the 18th, 19th and 20th of October at the Sheraton Hotel in Concord, CA. Hope to see you there.

Oh yeah, and the speakers this year will include Jim Duffy and Paul Harden,

reason enough to attend just to meet and hear them. 72, Doug

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 21:18:06 -0400
From: "George Osier" <gosier@twcnny.rr.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131108] IOTA Contest
Message-ID: <001701c23830\$217b2760\$25624342@twcnny.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello All !!!!!!!

On the weekend the IOTA contest was on with condx not so good but passable
.....

I had :

576 QSO PTS X 30 MULTS = 17200 PTS

Worked mostly 20 with some contacts on 40 meters

Power out on 20 and 40 was 3 watts QRP
Antenna a half G5RV up 20 ft.

HIGHLIGHTS !!!!!!!

Having Europeans on 40 meters above 7025 !!!!
Worked EI7M , 9A0A , M6T and 4N6IOTA with 3 watts !!!!!

Had a good time but worked with the condx I was given

71s

George Osier , N2JNZ / QRP
President , NNYCC

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 21:12:07 -0400
From: edkess@pa.net
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu

Subject: [131109] Stuff FS
Message-ID: <3D470127.8575.4E84351@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

Good Evening Folks,

I'm going to a hamfest on Saturday with a box of things to sell and I thought I'd give the QRP-L bunch first dibs. Let me know by Friday evening, if you are interested in anything. Thanks.

For Sale:

Timewave DSP 59+ in excellent condition. I think I have a manual, but am not sure. \$125 plus \$6 shipping.

Singlepoint 56K Fax Modem v.90 standard PCMCIA NIB (never unwrapped).
\$25 plus \$6 shipping.

Realistic TRC599 SSB/AM CB w/ mic and power cord. No Manual. vG condition. Works fine on transmit and receive. I bought this to convert to 10m but I doubt I'll get to it. I have the conversion instructions, if interested. \$40 plus \$6 shipping.

Realistic TRC502 CB with Midland Mic LNIB. No Manual. Great to throw in the car on trips because it's so small. \$35 plus \$6 shipping.

Heathkit HW8 with the original manual. The front panel is very nice and the top of the enclosure has a few scuffs. No deep scratches or dings. A few minor mods: 1) Selectivity is variable wide to narrow instead of the original switch, 2) PL259 and Phono ANT connectors, 3) LED-Lighted meter and S-Meter function.
\$110 plus \$8 shipping.

Heathkit HFT-9A Antenna Tuner. No manual. Works FB. The enclosure has a few scuffs. \$50 plus \$6 shipping.

AOR 8000 in excellent condition with photocopy of the manual, NiCads and charger. You may be able to talk me out of this, but I'm not taking it to the hamfest.
\$350 OBO plus \$10 shipping and insurance.

. . . . making room for some other projects.

73

Ed AA3SJ

Ed Kessler
950 Woodside Station Road
Millersburg, PA 17061

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 21:35:06 -0400
From: "George Osier" <gosier@twcnny.rr.com>
To: "QRP-L Group" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131110] Need 3 more cards for mw WAS....!!!!!!
Message-ID: <005201c23832\$839697c0\$25624342@twcnny.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello All !!!!!

I just need cards from W40C and W4MR plus AB5SE to have all 50 !!!!!!! I
sent out the 2 for North and South carolina some time ago and have not heard
also looking for AB5SE for Arkansas (Also sent to W50N)

.....

It will be certificate # 3 WAS , DXCC and WAC MILLIWATT
..... :)

Can hardly wait !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

71s

George Osier , N2JNZ / QRPp

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 20:47:18 -0500
From: Eric NM5M <res19m7g@verizon.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131111] Re WAS: WYO is QRV on 14063.9 at 0144 UTC
Message-ID: <20020731014718.YJIJ20228.out009.verizon.net@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Along with the WAS thread Wyoming is QRV (W7AJK) on 14063.9 at 0144 UTC

73,

Eric NM5M

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 21:14:47 -0500
From: Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion (E-mail)" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131112] Things that didn't work (long)
Message-ID: <01C2380E.22C18280.nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I thought to clear the smoke from all that conjugate matching stuff, I'd change directions a bit. Ever build something that you just couldn't get to work? Had to hang your head in shame around your QRP-L buddies? Well, you're not alone. I've decided to summarize a few of my disasters in the epic ...

Things that didn't work

Isn't it discouraging to sit and read reports from proficient technical types about their multi-band superhets with tunable crystal filters that they just whipped up over the weekend for lack of anything better to do? I wonder if those guys ever have anything NOT work? I've got a pretty good history of them, for a guy who can take a week to assemble an RF probe using one diode and one capacitor.

Back around 1979, when 2 meter FM was the technical frontier, I thought it would be cool to build a handy-talkie. (Handy if you're King Kong, that is.) I cheated on the receiver by using a surplus Hy-Gain scanner board.

The TX was a three transistor wonder from the '76 handbook. Never did get that sucker to work except maybe for a few seconds, despite countless hours at the workbench. I heard later that the design was just too "minimalist" to be reproducible. But that failure fixed in my mind the notion that RF is black magic and drove me over into the digital world for quite a few years.

When software controlled RTTY became easily available for your Apple, Commodore, Atari or IBM PC a couple years later, I had to try building the

interface. A simple design with just a couple chips to decode the mark and space. This one did almost work ? a little. Just enough to convince me I'd better buy a commercial unit.

Then there was the S-120, a cheap low-performance Hallicrafters unit I'd used years ago. It's the standard radio they use in hell. The Anti-Radio. Surely with the knowledge I'd gained with years, I could make it a real BFO so the CW note wouldn't sound like a frog gargling, and replace the transformerless power supply to get rid of the deafening hum. Did all that, burning a week of hobby time. Still sounds exactly the same. Back to the attic with you, you squalling abomination!

A few years ago, I caught balanced line fever, as we all do at one time or another. Hey, I've got some big B&W stock in the attic. Why not build a balanced tuner with a balanced link coil as its heart? It had taps to a switch mimicking the Matchbox and a couple variable capacitors. The first trial looked OK. Loaded up on a couple bands. OK, now crank the FT-1000 to the full 200 watts out. There was a violet spark, the FT-1000's meters danced in fear, and the contacts on the inductor switch disappeared. I guess I could have overcome this one, but right then a real Matchbox on eBay was starting to look good and you know the rest.

There was a neat circuit in Radio-Electronics magazine allowing you to measure low resistances. It briefly pulsed a 1 amp current through the resistor and an op-amp configured as a peak-hold circuit captured the resulting voltage drop. Built it up on a perf board, turned it on, and the op-amp went to the rail and stayed there. Don't have a good story for this one since I never did figure out why it doesn't work.

I built a frequency counter from an old QST series back in the 70's, etching my own boards and the whole works. It worked great for a while, but degraded over time due to my novice style construction practices, largely in the power supply section. I set about re-building that portion and after several hours of planning and working, it came to life. The display was stable and accurate. That's a great feeling. I stood up and stretched and took a brief walk outside while considering that all I had to do was to put the boards back in and reassemble the case. The birds sang and the world was in harmony.

When I reentered the house, my first indication of trouble was a thin laminar layer of blue smoke hanging two feet below the ceiling. And I wasn't baking a pie. The smell told the story. I'd know it anywhere, flambe de transformer insulation. You might think that correcting the short and replacing the transformer would have been a quick fix-but that frequency counter hasn't been the same since.

Then there was the Heath GR-91 a friend and I built for his first novice receiver. I was a year older (15) and had been licensed a year longer, so

I bore some leadership responsibility. We soldered every joint with the Weller gun and checked off every step. Then ? nothing. Just a few tiny warbles of sound trying to escape the speaker, but nothing else, ever.

Nearly forty years later it's still sitting on the shelf in his garage.

Guess it's a little late for Heath's "We won't let you fail" guarantee, eh?

So if you visit my shack, I'll proudly point out several gizmos I've built, all functional and useful and each with its story. But now you know the dark tale of my homebrew graveyard. But to end on an upbeat note, let me leave you with a quote from JF10ZL's excellent QRP/homebrew website:

"Failure is the mother of the success. Make your notebook! My projects informed on my home page becomes more than a hundred. I have 50 notebooks of my idea about handmade. I informed only successful projects of my notebook on my homepage. Therefore ninety percent of ideas was failed. But I enjoyed all of my ideas. Some of the successful projects was born from the failed idea. We have the proverb , "Failure is the mother of the success." in Japan. You may write your notebook not to record your successful porjects, but raise your new idea."

Amen.

72--Nick, WA5BDU

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 22:26:52 -0400
From: "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@cox.net>
To: <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131113] Re: Things that didn't work (long)
Message-ID: <000701c23839\$bbdc8d40\$6401a8c0@boomer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Great posting! Finally, some honesty...

73 de Lee

KM4YY

(with smoked boards over the deck)

----- Original Message -----

From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2002 10:14 PM
Subject: Things that didn't work (long)

> I thought to clear the smoke from all that conjugate matching stuff, I'd
> change directions a bit. Ever build something that you just couldn't get
> to work? Had to hang your head in shame around your QRP-L buddies? Well,
> you're not alone. I've decided to summarize a few of my disasters in the
> epic ...
>
> Things that didn't work
>
> Isn't it discouraging to sit and read reports from proficient technical
> types about their multi-band superhets with tunable crystal filters that
> they just whipped up over the weekend for lack of anything better to do?
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> history of them, for a guy who can take a week to assemble an RF probe
> using one diode and one capacitor.
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> to be reproducible. But that failure fixed in my mind the notion that RF
> is black magic and drove me over into the digital world for quite a few
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> resistor and an op-amp configured as a peak-hold circuit captured the
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> notebook on my homepage. Therefore ninety percent of ideas was failed. But
> I enjoyed all of my ideas. Some of the successful projects was born from
> the failed idea. We have the proverb , "Failure is the mother of the
> success." in Japan. You may write your notebook not to record your
> successful porjects, but raise your new idea."
>
> Amen.
>
> 72--Nick, WA5BDU
>
>
>

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 20:26:49 -0600
From: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>
Subject: [131114] Baluns and FIBerglass Poles
Message-ID: <B96CA709.1A018%jamesd1@flash.net>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Dave - I read with interest your comment:

"While preferable, I do not use a choke balun with the coax feedlines
because of overhead weight/sail area considerations."

Actually you would not suffer too much by moving the balun down the feedline
a bit. Say, use RG-174 a foot or so longer than the upper section length.
Put high permeability beads on the last foot or 18 inches for a balun. Then
connect to RG-58. This gives you a balun, limits the loss due to the RG-174,
and reduces the loading on the upper section.

W7EL, in his landmark balun paper in Antenna Compendium 1, showed that the
balun is effective at improving feedline balance even when located at the
transmitter. Not as effective as at the antenna feed point, but still
effective. You could probably even move the balun to the foot of the mast.

So you can still use a balun with the fiberglass mast. - Dr. Megacycle
KK6MC/5

--

James R. Duffey KK6MC/5
Cedar Crest, NM DM65

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 20:41:41 -0600
From: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131115] Rock Mite Nite Teams?
Message-ID: <B96CAA85.1A021%jamesd1@flash.net>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Doug - This is a great idea!

Is anybody interested in forming a team for Doug's Rock (Mite) of Ages
contest at Pacificon?

I am interested in joining a team that do not take themselves too seriously,
would be interested in a pre contest strategy session over a couple of
beers, are not obsessive or retentive about perfect electronic building
techniques, not above influencing the judges (any Chicago hams going to
Pacificon?), and who would like to celebrate victory over a couple of
beers. I can provide an antenna. I am also looking for a team captain who
can put up with a bunch of independent spirits. As soon as we have a team
captain you can submit your volunteer e-mail to her. - Dr. Megacycle KK6MC/5

--

James R. Duffey KK6MC/5
Cedar Crest, NM DM65

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 22:50:40 -0400
From: "Bill, N4QA" <n4qa@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131116] What's more fun than ONE instance of DSWTUN95 onscreen?
Message-ID: <F61kuqH7t2ZVugEFcdw000054eb@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

TWO!

DSW-40 via PCMCIA slot; DSW-20 via printer port.

Forty "to the left of me," Twenty "to the right...here I am, stuck in the middle with you" (twang,twang!)

73.

Bill, N4QA

MSN Photos is the easiest way to share and print your photos:
<http://photos.msn.com/support/worldwide.aspx>

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 23:00:23 EDT
From: RLucch2098@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131117] FS: Ramsey 40 Rcvr & Xmtr, \$50ppd!
Message-ID: <bd.24a30e80.2a78acc7@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Fellas;
I have for SALE:
1- Ramsey 40 mtr CW xmtr w/7.147 & 7.040 xtals, has xtal VX0 also, puts out 'bout 1/2 Watt.
2- Ramsey HR-1 40 mtr rcvr, uses 9 vdc battery, working.
Both in Excellent condition, may need some alignment, only tested them to see if they at least Hear & xmit :-)
Price for both is \$50.00ppd.
Here is a pic>>

<http://www.myradioroom.com/ramseypair.jpg>
Thanks es 73....Rich WA2RQY (1961)
RLUCCH2098@aol.com
"Keep those heaters on"

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 20:23:35 -0700
From: "Bob Hightower" <nk7m@extremezone.com>
To: "qrp" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [131118] BUBBA '02 Rules posted
Message-ID: <000701c23841\$a7f3d600\$384998d0@bobscomputer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have posted the rules for BUBBA '02 at
<http://www.extremezone.com/~nk7m/bubba02.htm>

The contest is scheduled for August 24, 2002 from 1800-2200Z

Bob NK7M

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 20:32:47 -0700
From: "Trevor Jacobs" <kg6cyn@earthlink.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131119] Something simpler than AutoCAD 14
Message-ID: <007101c23842\$f329e000\$8b94b2d1@tjacobs>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hey Gang,

Was playing with AutoCAD release 14 today at work, trying to do a front panel layout for a project, and found it very cumbersome (probably because I'd never used it before, hi!). What I'd like to find is a simple CAD program that will allow me to do front/rear panel layouts and so forth quickly, and simply. Any ideas? I was tempted to just use the PCB part of Eagle, hi! It has to be able to print 1:1 scale for obvious reasons. Thanks!

73's Trev KG6CYN
<http://home.earthlink.net/~kg6cyn>
<http://www.qsl.net/kg6cyn>

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 22:44:03 -0500
From: "Kelly Ellison" <kelman@sofnet.com>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131120] FS: Norcal 20a and SWL40. lower prices
Message-ID: <002001c23844\$8425da40\$d632c840@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Tuff crowd...

Not much interest on the qrp rigs. So I'll try again.

For Sale:

Norcal 20 with 10 turn pot and supertick keyer. Needs voltage regulator change. works great. \$75 shipped.

SWL 40+ with case. Doesn't work. 45.00 shipped.

Selling these because my family bought me a K1.

Email direct.

Kelly Ellison - WB0WQS
QRP-L #702

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 20:47:39 -0700
From: Paul Maciel <ak1p@earthlink.net>
To: myetsko@insydesw.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131121] Re: stores in Boston area?

Message-ID: <3D475DDB.51EB0584@earthlink.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Mike,

It has been many years since I stopped there but you must be thinking of Jabbour Electronics in Pawtucket.

It used to be off of Route 95 just south of the Massachusetts border, I wonder if it is still there?

---Paul AK1P - San Jose, CA

Mike Yetsko wrote:

> Well, there's HRO up in NH, but that's just a generic candy store.

>

> There is a parts place down in RI, but really the pickings are kind of
> slim. In Pawtucket, but the name escapes me right now.

>

> Mike

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: "David Hinerman" <WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net>

> To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

> Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2002 8:59 AM

> Subject: stores in Boston area?

>

> > Can anyone recommend any radio or parts/surplus stores in the Boston
> area?

> > I'll be visiting the corporate office in Wilmington MA later this week,
> and

> > might have a chance to get out and do some shopping.

> >

> > Dave

> >

> > -----

> > "You can fool some of the people all of the time. That's enough to make
> a

> > living." - Lance Burton

> > -----

> > Dave Hinerman

> > WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net

> >

> >

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 22:56:05 -0500
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: kg6cyn@earthlink.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131122] Re: Something simpler than AutoCAD 14
Message-ID: <3D475FD4.D193DC46@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Trev, I have used TurboCad for years and find that it is both easy to learn and to use. You can find the 2D plain-Jane version at any computer store. Cost is very reasonable, especially compared to Autocad 14. I have AC-14 and seldom use it since TC is so much better and quicker for the things that I do.

73/72/00, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13qe
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 56th year and it just keeps getting better!
QRP-L 1373 NETXQRP 6 SOC 262 COG 8 FPQRP 404 TEN-X 11771 I-LINK 11735
Icom IC-756PRO #02121 Kachina 505 DSP #91900556 Icom IC-765 #02437

Trevor Jacobs wrote:

>
> Hey Gang,
>
> Was playing with AutoCAD release 14 today at work, trying to do a front
> panel layout for a project, and found it very cumbersome (probably
> because I'd never used it before, hi!). What I'd like to find is a
> simple CAD program that will allow me to do front/rear panel layouts and
> so forth quickly, and simply. Any ideas? I was tempted to just use the
> PCB part of Eagle, hi! It has to be able to print 1:1 scale for obvious
> reasons. Thanks!

Date: Mon, 29 Jul 2002 00:06:13 -0400
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <ak1p@earthlink.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131123] Re: stores in Boston area?
Message-ID: <01b201c236b5\$48874400\$0300a8c0@charter.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Hi Mike,
>
> It has been many years since I stopped there but you must be thinking of
> Jabbour Electronics in Pawtucket.
>
> It used to be off of Route 95 just south of the Massachusetts border, I
> wonder if it is still there?
>
> ---Paul AK1P - San Jose, CA

Yep, that's the place! On the service road, and a tight cut to make
the turn to the parking lot. Was just there about 2 weeks ago. A
lot of neat stuff, but also a lot of stuff lacking...

Mike

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 22:15:29
From: Tim and Michele Groat <tmgroat@peakpeak.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131124] RE: OT: mobile power wire size?
Message-ID: <3.0.3.16.20020730221529.3e072688@peakpeak.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

The resistance of 10 AWG wire is a milliohm per foot. So a 16 foot run each
way comes to 16 milliohms. At 22 amps, you lose 0.35V in the wiring. So it
looks like there's more resistance somewhere in the circuit. This needs to
get straightened out, because there's at least 22 watts heating something
in the system. Rounding up the usual suspects:

- Battery is too small, discharged, or just plain worn out
- Low alternator output (can't charge while running radio, A/C, etc.)
- Poor battery terminal connections
- Fuses and fuse holders (he DID fuse both power leads, right?)

btw, does this happen with the motor running, or only with the engine off?

--KR0U

"Dave Benham" <dodgeboy@mindspring.com>
> ... He has #10 wire

> (stranded copper, not solid) going from the battery to the rear where the
> radio body is. At a theoretical 22 amps max, he is getting less than 11
> volts at the rig which sometimes causes control problems or to even drop out
> totally. He has about a 16 foot run of #10 wire. Connectors are crimp on
> (not Anderson PowerPoles, yet) and appear to have no corrosion or looseness.
>
> Does this sound like a normal voltage drop for this situation? He found a
> different better ground with a shorter run at the rear of the vehicle which
> seemed to help some.

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 22:39:00 -0600
From: "P.Ermisch" <ermisch@usa.net>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131125] Colorado 14er event
Message-ID: <20020731043900.17475.qmail@uwdvg002.cms.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Not sure if someone's already posted this. Primarily a VHF/UHF event but =
have
heard that some ops do HF as well. Even then, probably more than one FT==
817
doing hilltop duty for this. I've never participated and will not be thi=
s
year so please refer to the links below for more information.

2002 Colorado 14er Event
Amateur Radio Fun in the Colorado Mountains
Sunday, August 25, 2002
www.Colorado14erEvent.org

Amateur Radio operators from around Colorado will be climbing many
of Colorado's 14,000-foot mountains to set up amateur radio stations
in an effort to communicate with other radio amateurs across the
state and around the world. Join in on the fun Sunday, August 25th
and see how many of the mountaintop stations you can contact.
The prime operating hours are from approximately 9 AM to noon
local time (1500 to 1800 UTC), but activity may occur at other
times during the day. Most mountaintop stations will be running
low power handheld radios. Stations running high power need to
keep in mind that they can interfere with stations they cannot hear.

Radio operators with 14er hiking experience who wish to participate should indicate their intent at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ham14er/>, send an e-mail to info@C... or contact Bob K=D8NR, (719) 488-0859. To subscribe to the event mailing list, visit the yahoo groups site.

Frequencies used during the event

The 2M FM band plan uses a "primary frequency and QSY up" approach. Frequencies are no longer assigned by mountain range.

The primary 2M FM frequency is 147.42 MHz. At the beginning of the event, operators should try calling on 147.42 MHz. As activity increases on that frequency, operators should move up the frequency using the standard channel spacing used in Colorado (15 kHz). The next standard simplex frequency up from 147.42 MHz is 147.435 MHz, followed by 147.45, 147.465, 147.480, 147.495, 147.51, 147.525, 147.54, 147.555, 147.57 MHz. As activity increases, operators should spread out on the band. As activity decreases, operators should move back closer to the primary simplex frequency.

This year, we are using the Colorado Connection Repeater system for passing information and coordinating the event. Be sure to share the repeater system with other users and
DO NOT USE THE SYSTEM FOR GENERAL CONTACTS WITH MOUNTAINTOP STATIONS.

Frequency (MHz) Comments

147.42 Primary 2M FM Frequency, then up in 15 kHz steps

223.5 Primary 222 MHz FM frequency

446.000 Primary 70 cm FM frequency

446.025 Alternate 70 cm FM frequency

52.525 Primary 6M FM frequency

1294.5 Primary 1.2 GHz FM frequency

144.200 2M SSB calling frequency

50.125 6M SSB calling frequency

14.060 20M CW Frequency

21.060 15M CW Frequency

28.060 10M CW Frequency

14.260 20M SSB Frequency

21.330 15M SSB Frequency

28.350 10M SSB Frequency

Other Bands/Modes Standard calling frequencies and/or band plans apply.

Warning: Climbing mountains is inherently a dangerous activity.

Do not attempt this without proper training, equipment and preparation.

For Colorado Connection Repeater frequencies see <http://www.colcon.org>

Sponsored by The Colorado 14er Event Task Force

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 23:44:52 -0500
From: David Gauding <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: jamesd1@flash.net
Subject: [131126] Re: Baluns and Fiberglass Poles
Message-ID: <5.1.1.6.0.20020730230125.00a1a3b0@bbs.galilei.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 08:26 PM 7/30/02 -0600, you wrote:

- snip -

>Actually you would not suffer too much by moving the balun down the feedline
>a bit. Say, use RG-174 a foot or so longer than the upper section length.
>Put high permeability beads on the last foot or 18 inches for a balun. Then
>connect to RG-58. This gives you a balun, limits the loss due to the RG-174,
>and reduces the loading on the upper section.

Now *that* is a neat solution and makes a lot of sense. I will be trying it over the winter months. There are several RG-174 cable assemblies around here with only one crimp BNC. They will be perfect for mating the balun section with RG-58 feedlines.

>W7EL, in his landmark balun paper in Antenna Compendium 1, showed that the
>balun is effective at improving feedline balance even when located at the
>transmitter. Not as effective as at the antenna feed point, but still
>effective. You could probably even move the balun to the foot of the mast.

Hmmm! Guess I have another reading assignment ahead! <g>

Related matter, I converted from a scramble-wound, to a single-layer RG-58 choke balun for the 10-40M version of the old St. Louis Vest Pocket Vertical. The antenna has a 3.25" dia. tapped air-wound St. Louis Coil for seven bands but I rarely operate above 20M.

I'm using 6-1/2 turns of RG-58 on a 4-1/4" pvc form to cover 20-30-40M - very sexy compared to a bunch of coiled-up coax! <g> Probably works okay but I really haven't done anything to confirm that. If you know of a reliable source for single-layer balun info that will be helpful and

appreciated.

Thanks again for the good advice and counsel, Jim. I'm sure many on QRP-L will keep it in mind, me in particular.

de Dave, NF0R nf0r@slacc.com

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 00:50:10 -0400
From: "Kevin M., KC8SFJ" <adverseyaw@twmi.rr.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131127] RE: Something simpler than AutoCAD 14
Message-ID: <004a01c2384d\$bff13b10\$45f5d018@magnus>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- Original Message -----
From: "Kevin M., KC8SFJ" <adverseyaw@twmi.rr.com>
To: <kg6cyn@earthlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2002 12:23 AM
Subject: Re: Something simpler than AutoCAD 14

Trevor,
You might try Turbo CAD Learning Edition. It is free from their website www.turbocad.com or use this link for the direct download page...
<http://nct.digitalriver.com/fulfill/0002.16/tc/>
It is useful for drawing panel, meter faces, dial marks, etc. It is also slightly cumbersome to use but better than AutoCAD.
Also you might try WB8RCR's website. He has two programs one for making dials and one for making panels.
<http://hfradio.org/wb8rcr/>
Look for 'Panel (Not QSL maker) in left frame.

Hope these help.
73/72,
Kevin, KC8SFJ

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 21:50:10 -0700
From: "Ian Wilson" <ianmwilson@earthlink.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>,
<kg6cyn@earthlink.net>
Subject: [131128] Re: Something simpler than AutoCAD 14
Message-ID: <003001c2384d\$c0962da0\$0b02a8c0@trabucoserver>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

If you're into multiple time-consuming hobbies (echoes of my XYL's voice),
you can use
CADRail, a simple CAD program whose primary purpose is all things related to
model railroading.

--ian k3imw/6

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 22:11:21 -0700
From: Conrad Weiss <radman@best.com>
To: "'Trevor Jacobs'" <kg6cyn@earthlink.net>,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131129] RE: Something simpler than AutoCAD 14
Message-ID: <01C23816.0A556600@209-162-48-185.thegrid.net>

Hi Trev,

Do I have a deal for you :)!

Having spent many an hour on AutoCAD and PRO/E, I can assure you that the
"big gun" CAD programs are for the design jocks who make their living 24/7
sitting in front of a 22" monitor ;) Much like UNIX, these applications
become part of your personality - they live in your bone marrow. Left
unchecked, you could find yourself growing a pony tail, wearing
Birkenstocks and heading back to Berkeley for yet another grad degree.
Frightening, eh? But, I digress...

For casual, but professional, layouts I believe you'd like DeltaCAD
Professional Ver 5.0. It's very intuitive; easy to ramp-up; runs on all of
the common versions of MS Windows. And you can test drive the real deal for
45 days for FREE !!!!!

If you like it, you can buy it for a mere \$39.95 online. If it's not your thing - just let it time-out and walk away. Hey, give it a spin... here's your URL:

<http://www.dcad.com/demo.html>

Have fun,

Conrad Weiss

NN6CW not a rep for anyCAD, or UNIX either :)!

From: Trevor Jacobs[SMTP:kg6cyn@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2002 8:33 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Something simpler than AutoCAD 14

Hey Gang,

Was playing with AutoCAD release 14 today at work, trying to do a front panel layout for a project, and found it very cumbersome (probably because I'd never used it before, hi!). What I'd like to find is a simple CAD program that will allow me to do front/rear panel layouts and so forth quickly, and simply. Any ideas? I was tempted to just use the PCB part of Eagle, hi! It has to be able to print 1:1 scale for obvious reasons. Thanks!

73's Trev KG6CYN

<http://home.earthlink.net/~kg6cyn>

<http://www.qsl.net/kg6cyn>

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 22:31:08 -0700
From: "Doug Hauff" <dhauff@digitalputty.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131130] I'm Baaaaaack...with Porta Paddles!
Message-ID: <002501c23853\$7a0b5800\$13393442@fix.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

OK, Jerry Parker whipped my web page into shape, you can check out the

paddles at

http://users.digitalputty.com/dhauff/public_html/

I'll also be taking a few paddles to the NorCal meeting this Sunday...

72,

Doug Hauff KE6RIE

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 07:11:35 -0100
From: Bill Meara <n2cqr@clix.pt>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131131] Things that didn't work
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.20020731081135.007534c0@pop.clix.pt>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 09:14 PM 7/30/02 -0500, Nick wrote:

>I thought to clear the smoke from all that conjugate matching stuff, I'd
>change directions a bit. Ever build something that you just couldn't get
>to work? Had to hang your head in shame around your QRP-L buddies? Well,
>you're not alone. I've decided to summarize a few of my disasters in the
>epic ...

I hear you Nick! I've been there brother!

Around 1975 an article appeared in one of the ham mags describing a simple receiver tuned with varactor diodes. I plunged into the project. (I was in over my head.) I laid out the PC board, probably with no regard for possible feedback problems. I carefully soldered in every component... and couldn't get the thing to work. I had no real homebrew Elmers around, and of course there was no internet. The sad part is that I now realize that I was extremely close to getting the thing working. I'm pretty sure that the only stage not working was the oscillator.

I'd like to take another shot at that RX. Anybody remember the article or have a good index?

73 de Bill CU2JL N2CQR

Sao Miguel Island, Azores, Portugal

900 miles West of Lisbon 37.7N 25.67W

<http://planeta.clix.pt/n2cqr>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 05:33:07 -0500
From: Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
To: leon_heller@hotmail.com,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131132] Re: MRX-40 input filter [toroid]
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20020731053307.007b9100@mail.9plus.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 03:21 PM 07/30/2002 +0100, Leon Heller wrote:
>I just modeled the MRX-40 input filter with SPICE, and found that it peaks
>at about 7.4 MHz, rather than 7.1 MHz.
[snip]
> I'd be inclined to use a toroidal inductor.
[snip]

I wound a T50-6 with 34 turns of #28 and measured about 6uH with the turns
squeezed together and about 5uH with the turns spaced evenly over the core.
Looks like something like this would work for a "tuneable" inductor.

Well see, when the MRX-40 get built here...

Email Alt: w5usj@arrl.net, w5usj@go.com

Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1
QRP-ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, QRPP-I #115, ARS #1280, SOC #57
Zombie #759, COG #11, 6 Club #201, NETXQRP <http://www.netxqrp.org>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 11:44:48 +0000
From: "Leon Heller" <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
To: w5usj@9plus.net, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131133] Re: MRX-40 input filter [toroid]
Message-ID: <F1222Wmj1MHpSXJrFhd00029053@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

>From: Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
>To: leon_heller@hotmail.com, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion"
><qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
>Subject: Re: MRX-40 input filter [toroid]

>Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 05:33:07 -0500

>

>At 03:21 PM 07/30/2002 +0100, Leon Heller wrote:

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>peaks

> >at about 7.4 MHz, rather than 7.1 MHz.

>[snip]

> > I'd be inclined to use a toroidal inductor.

>[snip]

>

>I wound a T50-6 with 34 turns of #28 and measured about 6uH with the turns
>squeezed together and about 5uH with the turns spaced evenly over the core.
> Looks like something like this would work for a "tuneable" inductor.

I'd already decided to use a T50-6 with about 33 turns. I checked the input
C of the SA612; it's 3 pF, so my 5 pF for the simulation was about right.

I've getting a couple of 7.030 MHz xtals made (UK QRP band). I'll have them
in a couple of weeks. I've just realised I could probably have got them from
one of the QRP suppliers over here.

I'm designing a PCB. I've placed all the components (board is about 2" by
3") but haven't started routing it yet. It'll be easy to make at home.

73, Leon

--

Leon Heller, G1HSM Tel: +44 1327 359058 Email:leon_heller@hotmail.com

My web page: http://www.geocities.com/leon_heller

My low-cost Altera Flex design kit: <http://www.leonheller.com>

Send and receive Hotmail on your mobile device: <http://mobile.msn.com>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 06:18:32 -0600 (MDT)

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [131134] Smith Chart Use

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0207310601320.1796-1000000@Daisy.dog>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I have been working with the Smith Chart and have been helped a
lot by folks on this list. Here is where I am now:

I was directed to <http://www.sss-mag.com/smith.html> and there I found both a Adobe Acrobat and Post Script version of the Smith Chart. I used both and my old HP LaserJet 2 with 300ppi prints a wonderful Smith Chart. I have printed 6 copies so far.

You must borrow or buy the ARRL Antenna Handbook of the last 5 years or so. In section 28 is a wonderful tutorial on using a Smith Chart to do the feedline things I need.

Alas, my German drawing tools that were so very nice were lost about 1958. Right after a drafting class in which I was given a passing grade on a promise that I never become a Civil Engineer!

So I must find what ever is available at Wal Mart or Kmart in the way of a compass. You MUST have one to draw the SWR circle and transfer values to the scales below the chart.

Very soon I will be ready to prove how the interface between the feed line and the tuner reflects power back up the feedline to the antenna again. Interesting stuff. Try it yourself.

--

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 08:19:49 -0400
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <tmgroat@peakpeak.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>,
Subject: [131135] Re: OT: mobile power wire size?
Message-ID: <001901c2388c\$92840e20\$0300a8c0@charter.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

First thing I would do is divide and conquer.

Find out what the + feed drop is. Battery to radio.

Then find out what the GROUND feed drop is. Battery to radio.

If the ground feed has too much difference from the battery to the

radio, I'll find out if there is a difference from the batter to car frame in the engine compartment.

Might be time to have your vehicle checked for the battery to engine block binding, and the battery to car frame binding.

As I said, my Intrepid had a spot in the trunk specifically designed for a high power amp to be used for a 'ground', and I used that for my Alinco dual-bander. Saved me running an extra ground, and also let me run without a fuse in the ground wire.

Mike

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 08:27:39 -0400
From: "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@cox.net>
To: <n2cqr@clix.pt>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131136] Re: Things that didn't work
Message-ID: <004a01c2388d\$a96025b0\$6401a8c0@boomer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

If you want to take a whack at a good receiver, build the receiver section of K8IQY's 2N2-40. It is hot and quiet hearing everything that my IC 781 hears. There is a great website/reflector for builders and at least a half dozen folks eager to help "Elmer" you thru the process including Jim Kortegge himself.

73 de Lee
KM4YY

>
> I'd like to take another shot at that RX. Anybody remember the article or
> have a good index?
> 73 de Bill CU2JL N2CQR
> Sao Miguel Island, Azores, Portugal
> 900 miles West of Lisbon 37.7N 25.67W
> <http://planeta.clix.pt/n2cqr>
>
>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 07:32:32 -0500
From: Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
To: k5di@zianet.com,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131137] Re: Smith Chart Use [Drafting Compass]
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20020731073232.007c6550@mail.9plus.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Karl,

>the way of a compass. You MUST have one to draw the SWR circle and
>transfer values to the scales below the chart.

Check out some of the drafting supply places on the web. I just did a quick Google Search and found a few that have drafting compasses, dividers and engineering triangular scales. Officeworld.com was one of them.

Email Alt: w5usj@arrl.net, w5usj@go.com

Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1
QRP-ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, QRPp-I #115, ARS #1280, SOC #57
Zombie #759, COG #11, 6 Club #201, NETXQRP <http://www.netxqrp.org>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 08:36:55 -0700
From: "Dave Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
To: <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131138] Re: Baluns and Fiberglass Poles
Message-ID: <001901c238a8\$1a9c3060\$16eed73f@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dave-

If you go to RG-174, it's pretty flexible stuff, and you can thread 3-4 turns of it through an FT50-43 core (for example). That cuts down on the number of toroids needed to get the same effect.

73- Dave Benson, K1SWL

-----Original Message-----

From: David Gauding <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Tuesday, July 30, 2002 21:52 PM
Subject: Re: Baluns and Fiberglass Poles

At 08:26 PM 7/30/02 -0600, you wrote:

- snip -

>Actually you would not suffer too much by moving the balun down the
feedline
>a bit. Say, use RG-174 a foot or so longer than the upper section length.
>Put high permeability beads on the last foot or 18 inches for a balun. Then
>connect to RG-58. This gives you a balun, limits the loss due to the
RG-174,
>and reduces the loading on the upper section.

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 05:51:01 -0700 (PDT)
From: N1EU <n1eu@yahoo.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Cc: hjohnc@core.com
Subject: [131139] Flight of the Bumblebees - Preliminary Soapbox (Long)
Message-ID: <20020731125101.85405.qmail@web14607.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

John, you asked: "Any suggestions for next year? Is there a need to reduce activity on 20M?"

I feel that 15M (& 40M?) is greatly under-utilized in FOBB.

Last year I made the comment: "15M sure seemed under-utilized, and there was quite good east coast/west coast propagation. Signals weren't overly strong, but the noise floor was unbelievably low."

This year, VE3ELA just made the comment: "15 meters seemed to be open - but lonely."

My suggestion would be to give double points for QSO's and a double multiplier for bees worked on 15M and 40M (and 10M?). It would be an interesting experiment to

see how much activity might be shifted from 20M to other bands.

72/73,
Barry N1EU/BB

Do You Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Health - Feel better, live better
<http://health.yahoo.com>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 07:03:40 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131140] Re: Smith Chart Use [Drafting Compass]
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0207310701100.9920-1000000@Daisy.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

That's good Chuck. But I just went through my stuff and found a compass and a good straight edge triangle plastic so I'm set. Surprised anyone sells that stuff now. With Autocad being used 100% in business.

On Wed, 31 Jul 2002, Chuck Carpenter wrote:

> Karl,
>
> >the way of a compass. You MUST have one to draw the SWR circle and
> >transfer values to the scales below the chart.
>
> Check out some of the drafting supply places on the web. I just did a
> quick Google Search and found a few that have drafting compasses, dividers
> and engineering triangular scales. Officeworld.com was one of them.
>
> Email Alt: w5usj@arrl.net, w5usj@go.com
>
> Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1
> QRP-ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, QRPp-I #115, ARS #1280, SOC #57
> Zombie #759, COG #11, 6 Club #201, NETXQRP <http://www.netxqrp.org>
>

--

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 06:57:47 -0600
From: "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
To: <rod@n0rc.us>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131141] Re: WTB Palm MIni-Paddle or Paddlette PK-1
Message-ID: <008301c23891\$df570270\$6401a8c0@greyrock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Cancel request, I'm going for one of Doug Hauff's new mini-paddles, very nice!

73, Rod N0RC

----- Original Message -----
From: "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2002 6:48 PM
Subject: WTB Palm MIni-Paddle or Paddlette PK-1

> Folks,
>
> Anybody have one they would like to sell?
>
> 73, Rod N0RC
>
>
>
>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 14:07:27 +0100 (BST)
From: hubert.smits@btinternet.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu

Subject: [131142] Re: MRX-40 input filter [toroid]
Message-ID: <6967298.1028120847821.JavaMail.root@127.0.0.1>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Leon,

A reliable source for the xtals is:

Vincent Jakomin=20
IQ Electronic Design=20
69 Angus Close=20
Chessington=20
Surrey KT9 2BN

vincent@jakomin.fsnet.co.uk

He charged me =A311.85 for 3 7.030 MHz xtals, excluding VAT and P&P.

--Hubert

> from: Leon Heller <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
> date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 12:44:48
> to: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
> subject: Re: MRX-40 input filter [toroid]
>=20
>=20
>=20
>=20
> >From: Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
> >To: leon_heller@hotmail.com, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion"=20
> ><qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
> >Subject: Re: MRX-40 input filter [toroid]
> >Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 05:33:07 -0500
> >
> >At 03:21 PM 07/30/2002 0100, Leon Heller wrote:
> > >I just modeled the MRX-40 input filter with SPICE, and found that it=
>=20
> >peaks
> > >at about 7.4 MHz, rather than 7.1 MHz.
> >[snip]
> > > I'd be inclined to use a toroidal inductor.
> >[snip]
> >
> >I wound a T50-6 with 34 turns of #28 and measured about 6uH with the tur=
ns

> >squeezed together and about 5uH with the turns spaced evenly over the core.
> > Looks like something like this would work for a "tuneable" inductor.
>=20
> I'd already decided to use a T50-6 with about 33 turns. I checked the input=20
> C of the SA612; it's 3 pF, so my 5 pF for the simulation was about right.
>=20
> I've getting a couple of 7.030 MHz xtals made (UK QRP band). I'll have them=20
> in a couple of weeks. I've just realised I could probably have got them from=20
> one of the QRP suppliers over here.
>=20
> I'm designing a PCB. I've placed all the components (board is about 2" by=20
> 3") but haven't started routing it yet. It'll be easy to make at home.
>=20
> 73, Leon
> --
> Leon Heller, G1HSM Tel: 44 1327 359058 Email:leon_heller@hotmail.com
> My web page: http://www.geocities.com/leon_heller
> My low-cost Altera Flex design kit: <http://www.leonheller.com>
>=20
>=20
> -----
> Send and receive Hotmail on your mobile device: <http://mobile.msn.com>
>=20

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 09:06:19 -0400
From: "Ronald A Pfeiffer" <Ronald_A_Pfeiffer@raytheon.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: neqrp@jonal.net
Subject: [131143] Results of last nights NEQRP SSB NET
Message-ID: <OFFD39D5AD.5ADFEED2-0N85256C07.00477063@and.us.ray.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

We had three checkins even with the warbly voices!!

N1VS	Vince	WINSTED
CT		
W1USN	Mike	K2 ,BOXFORD MA
KD1JV	Steve	Patcomm 9000, GORHAM NH

Talked about antennas and how the net op (me) should put up a real antenna before the snow falls!!

Thanks to the 3 that checked-in and all join us next week.

Ron - N1ZSW

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 09:13:19 -0400
From: David Hinerman <WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131144] Re: Smith Chart Use [Drafting Compass]
Message-ID: <5.1.0.14.1.20020731091138.00a72360@ipostoffice.worldnet.att.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 07:32 AM 7/31/2002 -0500, you wrote:

> >the way of a compass. You MUST have one to draw the SWR circle and
> >transfer values to the scales below the chart.
>
>Check out some of the drafting supply places on the web. I just did a
>quick Google Search and found a few that have drafting compasses, dividers
>and engineering triangular scales. Officeworld.com was one of them.

My drafting teacher in high school recommended checking with pawn shops near the university for drafting equipment. Just after the end of a semester or quarter is usually a good time to look. You know the stuff hasn't been used much.

Dave

"You can fool some of the people all of the time. That's enough to make a living." - Lance Burton

Dave Hinerman
WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 08:24:02 -0500
From: <mgoins@usa.net>

To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131145] CQ Mike Duke
Message-ID: <20020731132402.3760.qmail@uwdvg001.cms.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Mike,

I'm trying to reach you via K5XU@concentric.net and I keep getting bounce=
d
back. Need your professional opinon on something.

mike
wb5yjx

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 06:34:36 -0700
From: "Ian Wilson" <ianmwilson@earthlink.net>
To: <k5di@zianet.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131146] Re: Smith Chart Use
Message-ID: <001601c23897\$0394dd60\$0b02a8c0@trabucoserver>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Here is a great page of Smith chart-related stuff. Some of the downloads
are interactive design tools
(so you don't need to scour your local K-Mart, etc, looking for straightedge
and compass).

<http://www.sss-mag.com/smith.html>

--ian k3imw/6

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 14:35:49 +0100
From: "Leon Heller" <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
To: "Low Power" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [131147] My MRX-40 Rx
Message-ID: <DAV307TtkizrxMCTG1s00017671@hotmail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I've set up a web page with the schematic and preliminary PCB layout of my version of the MRX-40 Rx:

http://www.geocities.com/leon_heller/mrx-40.html

I've used the Philips TDA7052 instead of the original LM380, and toroidal inductors instead of moulded RF chokes. I've also substituted a proper varicap diode for the 1N4004. The associated inductor will probably need to be changed to get the correct coverage. The pots are plastic film units.

The PCB is double-sided with a continuous ground plane on the top. I've managed to lay it out without any links, although ground connections need to be added where I've got vias.

Leon Heller, G1HSM

73, Leon

--

leon_heller@hotmail.com
http://www.geocities.com/leon_heller

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 14:43:49 +0100
From: "Leon Heller" <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
To: <k5di@zianet.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131148] Re: Smith Chart Use
Message-ID: <DAV24w9pVBhNZ981mx1000176b5@hotmail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- Original Message -----

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2002 1:18 PM
Subject: Smith Chart Use

>
> I have been working with the Smith Chart and have been helped a
> lot by folks on this list. Here is where I am now:

I've seen software that does the whole thing for you graphically on the screen, but can't remember where I found it. I'll post the details if I come across it.

73, Leon

--

Leon Heller, G1HSM
leon_heller@hotmail.com
http://www.geocities.com/leon_heller

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 10:03:44 -0400
From: "ss lyon" <sslyon@megalink.net>
To: <n1eu@yahoo.com>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131149] F.O.B. - 15 & 40m
Message-ID: <00f001c2389b\$158acee0\$aac7e742@megalink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'd support a scheme to spread out from 20m. We tried 15 and managed W0CH & W0UR... but that's all. Heard only a few ESP level sigs. 40m was a story of lightning crashes from an approaching storm front. Couldn't even copy S-9 sigs at times.

Next outing will emphasize multiple, switchable wire antennas with gain in optimum directions. I suspect most of us don't realize the potential our rigs really have, plus, we can increase global participation, too. -and multipliers! (Thanks again, GM3SKN)

72
AA1MY

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 09:08:43 -0500
From: "David Bixler" <qrp@netins.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131150] Wednesday Warble
Message-ID: <DBEPKBJH00EAHCKKIHPFKENIDGAA.qrp@netins.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello QRP'ers:

This evening, the Four State QRP Group will have
our weekly "Wednesday Warble" on or near 3580.5
KHz at 9:00 PM central time.

All QRP'ers within range of our signals are invited
to drop in and say howdy. Despite summer static
and poor conditions on 80 meters, we are enjoying
some nice chats with several states each Wednesday.

72, Dave

David Bixler W0CH
Seneca, MO
Four State QRP Group: <http://www.w0ch.com/fsqrp>
W0CH Main Web Site: <http://w0ch.com>
W0CH Mirror Site: <http://showcase.netins.net/web/w0ch>

QRP: Little Radios, Big Fun!

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 09:24:17 -0500
From: "Gene Sailsbury" <gsailsbury@mobil1.net>
To: "Low Power" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131151] Items Needed
Message-ID: <00be01c2389d\$f44b6d40\$aac03fd8@mshome.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I need the following items:
1. 20 meter module for Ten Tec 555
2. Manual for MFJ 408 Keyer
Tnx
Gene NOMQ

Outgoing mail is certified Virus Free.
Checked by AVG anti-virus system (<http://www.grisoft.com>).
Version: 6.0.372 / Virus Database: 207 - Release Date: 6/20/2002

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 10:35:39 -0400
From: "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
To: "'qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131152] Re: PSK31 BW
Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CC027E341C@kahless.arrlhq.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

<http://www.psk31.com/G3PLXarticle.pdf>
This article by the expert on PSK31 has
a spectral plot. Isn't the bandwidth 60
Hz, for an emission designator of
60H0J2B?

Zack Lau W1VT

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 09:41:15 -0500
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: leon_heller@hotmail.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131153] Re: Smith Chart Use
Message-ID: <3D47F70B.80135F26@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Is this what you are thinking of, Leon?

TLDetails shows the impedance and SWR (or rho) at both ends of a
transmission line and the details of power loss in the line. Impedance
points are shown on a Smith chart and loss components are shown on bar
charts. Includes characteristics for 47 built-in line types. You can
modify these values to see how small changes affect the results or to

specify custom lines. All program inputs may be changed directly or you can use spin buttons to make the changes. If you are using a moderately fast computer you can hold down a spinner and "watch the movie" on the charts as the results are recomputed.

There is no separate help file but you can see brief tips by hovering your mouse over any of the non-obvious text boxes. For additional information concerning the K1 and K2 loss coefficients see www.qsl.net/ac6la/bestfit.html.

TLDetails must be run with a screen size of 800x600 or greater, 640x480 is not supported.

73

Dan Maguire AC6LA
www.qsl.net/ac6la/
email: ac6la@arrl.net

This program is the very best that I have used. And it's free! <:}

73/72/00, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13qe
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 56th year and it just keeps getting better!
QRP-L 1373 NETXQRP 6 SOC 262 COG 8 FPQRP 404 TEN-X 11771 I-LINK 11735
Icom IC-756PRO #02121 Kachina 505 DSP #91900556 Icom IC-765 #02437

Leon Heller wrote:

>
> I've seen software that does the whole thing for you graphically on the
> screen, but can't remember where I found it. I'll post the details if I come
> across it.

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 09:56:39 -0500
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: zlau@arrl.org
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131154] Re: PSK31 BW
Message-ID: <3D47FAA7.F4D75650@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I can't see the colors of the plot, but from the spectra I see the two tones at +/- 15.625 Hz in "green" for a total bandwidth of 31.25 Hz.

I think that the wider spectrum in "blue" is for the condition of "random data."

The spectra that I have run of my transmitted signals under two-tone idle conditions have always shown only the principal tones at +/- 15.625 Hz relative to the "carrier" frequency.

Thanks for the reference . . .

73/72/00, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13qe
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 56th year and it just keeps getting better!
QRP-L 1373 NETXQRP 6 SOC 262 COG 8 FPQRP 404 TEN-X 11771 I-LINK 11735
Icom IC-756PRO #02121 Kachina 505 DSP #91900556 Icom IC-765 #02437

"Lau, Zack, W1VT" wrote:

>
> <http://www.psk31.com/G3PLXarticle.pdf>
> This article by the expert on PSK31 has
> a spectral plot. Isn't the bandwidth 60
> Hz, for an emission designator of
> 60H0J2B?
>
> Zack Lau W1VT

--

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 09:05:48 -0600
From: "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131155] FS Drafting Tools was Re: Smith Chart Use [Drafting Compass]
Message-ID: <004301c238a3\$c17dff80\$6401a8c0@greyrock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This talk of drafting tools reminded me I still have a set (haven't used it in years!), the case has a few dings but the instruments are in good shape. Set includes large & small compass, and dividers. \$20 shipped
CONUS

Picture at: http://www.radioactivehams.com/~n0rc/pics/drafting_tools.jpg

73, Rod N0RC

----- Original Message -----

From: "David Hinerman" <WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2002 7:13 AM

Subject: Re: Smith Chart Use [Drafting Compass]

> At 07:32 AM 7/31/2002 -0500, you wrote:

> > >the way of a compass. You MUST have one to draw the SWR circle and

> > >transfer values to the scales below the chart.

> >

> >Check out some of the drafting supply places on the web. I just did
a

> >quick Google Search and found a few that have drafting compasses,
dividers

> >and engineering triangular scales. Officeworld.com was one of them.

>

> My drafting teacher in high school recommended checking with pawn
shops

> near the university for drafting equipment. Just after the end of a

> semester or quarter is usually a good time to look. You know the stuff

> hasn't been used much.

>

> Dave

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 08:14:26 -0700 (PDT)

From: Jeff Davis <ke9v@yahoo.com>

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [131156] Dummy Load

Message-ID: <20020731151426.18792.qmail@web21006.mail.yahoo.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I am looking for a dummy load that is built onto a BNC connector.

I recall that somebody was selling them, but can't find the info now.

Anybody have a link to such a critter?

Jeff, Ke9v

Do You Yahoo!?

Yahoo! Health - Feel better, live better

<http://health.yahoo.com>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 09:17:35 -0700

From: Brian Kassel <bkassel@mato.com>

To: QRP-L <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [131157] RE: [131072] RE: Most Wanted States = *Wyoming*

Message-ID: <3D480D9F.159D92F5@mato.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks:

If WY isn't at the top of the "States Most Wanted" list, it is certainly in the top 5. South Dakota is also fairly rare, at least in the big contests. North Dakota is somewhat rarer IMHO.

As my new QTH (Spearfish SD) is less than 10 miles from the WY border, I fully intend to operate many contests from there. I will not be QRP for some of them however, as in some cases there isn't a separate QRP category. I am working on a mobile setup that will be sued in my ancient motor home.

I do QSL 100% on all cards received. But PLEASE send an SASE along with your card. Even in the short time that I have lived here in SD, I have received many QSL requests. Most include an SASE, a few don't. I still reply, but it can get pretty expensive when there are hundreds of cards to process. After 42 years of hamming, let's face it, I really don't need another NY, NJ OH etc. QSL card. I won't feel bad at all if you just send a QSL request with SASE, but no card.

I know that Chuck Adams plans to also work from WY in at least one contest (ARRL SS CW), but will be exclusively QRP I believe. I will probably be 100W for SS CW however. I also plan to operate in the Phone events as well, again some from SD. and some from WY.

72

Brian K7RE

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 11:19:21 -0400
From: "Randy Randall" <randallr@healthall.com>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131158] Re: Things that didn't work (long)
Message-ID: <sd47c7bb.044@jhs_izar.healthall.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

I have built many, many kits and only one has beaten me. The worst kit I ever built was the Dick Smith 2 meter transceiver. What a dog! The PLL never did lock except for a 500 Khz segment of the band. I must have burned 200+ hours on the blasted thing and never got it to work any better. It is loooong gone.

Randy KB8AS0

>>> Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainternet.com> 07/30/02 22:19 PM >>>
I thought to clear the smoke from all that conjugate matching stuff, I'd

change directions a bit. Ever build something that you just couldn't get to work? Had to hang your head in shame around your QRP-L buddies? Well, you're not alone. I've decided to summarize a few of my disasters in the epic ...

Things that didn't work

Isn't it discouraging to sit and read reports from proficient technical types about their multi-band superhets with tunable crystal filters that they just whipped up over the weekend for lack of anything better to do? I wonder if those guys ever have anything NOT work? I've got a pretty good history of them, for a guy who can take a week to assemble an RF probe using one diode and one capacitor.

Back around 1979, when 2 meter FM was the technical frontier, I thought it would be cool to build a handy-talkie. (Handy if you're King Kong, that

is.) I cheated on the receiver by using a surplus Hy-Gain scanner board.

The TX was a three transistor wonder from the '76 handbook. Never did get that sucker to work except maybe for a few seconds, despite countless hours at the workbench. I heard later that the design was just too "minimalist" to be reproducible. But that failure fixed in my mind the notion that RF is black magic and drove me over into the digital world for quite a few years.

When software controlled RTTY became easily available for your Apple, Commodore, Atari or IBM PC a couple years later, I had to try building the interface. A simple design with just a couple chips to decode the mark and space. This one did almost work ? a little. Just enough to convince me I'd better buy a commercial unit.

Then there was the S-120, a cheap low-performance Hallicrafters unit I'd used years ago. It's the standard radio they use in hell. The Anti-Radio.

Surely with the knowledge I'd gained with years, I could make it a real

BFO so the CW note wouldn't sound like a frog gargling, and replace the transformerless power supply to get rid of the deafening hum. Did all that, burning a week of hobby time. Still sounds exactly the same. Back to the attic with you, you squalling abomination!

A few years ago, I caught balanced line fever, as we all do at one time or another. Hey, I've got some big B&W stock in the attic. Why not build a balanced tuner with a balanced link coil as its heart? It had taps to a

switch mimicking the Matchbox and a couple variable capacitors. The first trial looked OK. Loaded up on a couple bands. OK, now crank the FT-1000 to the full 200 watts out. There was a violet spark, the FT-1000's meters danced in fear, and the contacts on the inductor switch disappeared. I guess I could have overcome this one, but right then a real Matchbox on

eBay was starting to look good and you know the rest.

There was a neat circuit in Radio-Electronics magazine allowing you to measure low resistances. It briefly pulsed a 1 amp current through the resistor and an op-amp configured as a peak-hold circuit captured the resulting voltage drop. Built it up on a perf board, turned it on, and the op-amp went to the rail and stayed there. Don't have a good story for this one since I never did figure out why it doesn't work.

I built a frequency counter from an old QST series back in the 70's, etching my own boards and the whole works. It worked great for a while, but degraded over time due to my novice style construction practices, largely in the power supply section. I set about re-building that portion and after several hours of planning and working, it came to life. The display was stable and accurate. That's a great feeling. I stood up and stretched and took a brief walk outside while considering that all I had to do was to put the boards back in and reassemble the case. The birds sang and the world was in harmony.

When I reentered the house, my first indication of trouble was a thin laminar layer of blue smoke hanging two feet below the ceiling. And I wasn't baking a pie. The smell told the story. I'd know it anywhere, flambe de transformer insulation. You might think that correcting the short and replacing the transformer would have been a quick fix-but that frequency counter hasn't been the same since.

Then there was the Heath GR-91 a friend and I built for his first novice receiver. I was a year older (15) and had been licensed a year longer, so I bore some leadership responsibility. We soldered every joint with the Weller gun and checked off every step. Then ? nothing. Just a few tiny warbles of sound trying to escape the speaker, but nothing else, ever. Nearly forty years later it's still sitting on the shelf in his garage.

Guess it's a little late for Heath's "We won't let you fail" guarantee, eh?

So if you visit my shack, I'll proudly point out several gizmos I've built,
all functional and useful and each with its story. But now you know the
dark tale of my homebrew graveyard. But to end on an upbeat note, let me
leave you with a quote from JF10ZL's excellent QRP/homebrew website:

"Failure is the mother of the success. Make your notebook! My projects
informed on my home page becomes more than a hundred. I have 50
notebooks
of my idea about handmade. I informed only successful projects of my
notebook on my homepage. Therefore ninety percent of ideas was failed.
But
I enjoyed all of my ideas. Some of the successful projects was born from
the failed idea. We have the proverb , "Failure is the mother of the
success." in Japan. You may write your notebook not to record your
successful porjects, but raise your new idea."

Amen.

72--Nick, WA5BDU

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 08:17:03 -0700
From: "Peter Shores" <pshores@socal.rr.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131159] Yaesu FT-709R
Message-ID: <000901c238a5\$53146500\$9e00a8c0@socal.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi,
I picked up this hand held for my son. I did not get operation manual. I
would like to know how to change the channel spacing /steps. Currently radio
is in 25KHz mode and I have tried various key pad moves to change it, but no
luck. Southern Calif. repeaters are on 20KHz splits and this is somewhat of
a problem.

Any info /help is appreciated.

Thanks

Peter AD6TN

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 09:34:33 -0600 (CST)
From: Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
To: N1EU <n1eu@yahoo.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131160] Re: Flight of the Bumblebees - Preliminary Soapbox (Long)
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0207310928240.19261-100000@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

After checking 10 & 15 & 40 mtrs constantly throughout the 4 hour period,
the only band I heard signals on was 20 mtrs...of course my location is
not the ideal one... ;-) ...and that's a fact...

...does this mean we just have to wait for propagation to be kind to us or
have a Flight of the BBs with hundreds of participants on the air in
order to saturate the ether with RF?...

...we all know about Mother Propagation but "hundreds of
participants?"...I don't think so but wouldn't it be great eh!?!...

..72/73 - Bruce (VE5RC+VE5QRP) QRP-C#1 QRP-L#886 ARCI#9683 Zombie#272
A-1 Operator Club - 10/10# 944 - QRP Borg#1 - Whiner#10 -
- VE5QRP SOC#11 - VE5RC SOC#12 - oo#148 - K2#2032 - COG#15 -
"QRP! How sweet it is!" "I am da man wit "DAH" paddle!"

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 10:51:44 -0500
From: "wilford lindsey" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
To: "Brian Kassel" <bkassel@mato.com>,
"qrp-l reflector" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: "doc k0evz earthlink" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
Subject: [131161] RE: [131072] RE: Most Wanted States = *Wyoming*
Message-ID: <4120027331155144577@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Brian and Gang:

I second your request that SASE's be included. I always return my card in an envelope, so costs are high and getting higher. Glad to QSL, though, so thanks for the QSOes we have and for your cards and notes to ND. BTW, if I have somehow missed responding to a request for a QSL card, please write me off-list and we'll go from there. Thanks.

73,
--Doc/K0EVZ

> [Original Message]
> From: Brian Kassel <bkassel@mato.com>
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
> Date: 7/31/2002 11:17:35 AM
> Subject: RE: [131072] RE: Most Wanted States = *Wyoming*
>
> Folks:
>
> If WY isn't at the top of the "States Most Wanted" list, it is
> certainly in the top 5. South Dakota is also fairly rare, at least in
> the big contests. North Dakota is somewhat rarer IMHO.
>
> As my new QTH (Spearfish SD) is less than 10 miles from the WY border,
> I fully intend to operate many contests from there. I will not be QRP
> for some of them however, as in some cases there isn't a separate QRP
> category. I am working on a mobile setup that will be sued in my
> ancient motor home.
>
> I do QSL 100% on all cards received. But PLEASE send an SASE along
> with your card. Even in the short time that I have lived here in SD, I
> have received many QSL requests. Most include an SASE, a few don't. I
> still reply, but it can get pretty expensive when there are hundreds of
> cards to process. After 42 years of hamming, let's face it, I really
> don't need another NY, NJ OH etc. QSL card. I won't feel bad at all if
> you just send a QSL request with SASE, but no card.
>
> I know that Chuck Adams plans to also work from WY in at least one
> contest (ARRL SS CW), but will be exclusively QRP I believe. I will
> probably be 100W for SS CW however. I also plan to operate in the Phone
> events as well, again some from SD. and some from WY.
>
>
> 72

> Brian K7RE

--- wilford lindsey
--- dock0evz@earthlink.net

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 08:48:58 -0700 (PDT)
From: Jeff Davis <ke9v@yahoo.com>
To: qrp <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131162] Re: Flight of the Bumblebees - Preliminary Soapbox (Long)
Message-ID: <20020731154858.42359.qmail@web21009.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I like the saturating the aether with RF concept! :-)

I used to tune around on 10 meters everyday and never hear a soul.
Oddly enough though, whenever there was a 10 meter contest the band
had lots of activity...it just goes to show that every now and then
you have to spray some RF into the aether to keep it alive!

Jeff, Ke9v

--- Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca> wrote:
> ...does this mean we just have to wait for propagation to be kind
> to us or
> have a Flight of the BBs with hundreds of participants on the air
> in
> order to saturate the ether with RF?...

Do You Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Health - Feel better, live better
<http://health.yahoo.com>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 11:07:02 -0400
From: "Glen Leinweber" <leinwebe@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca>
To: "qrp-1" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131163] Is homebrew for you?

Message-ID: <001f01c238a3\$ed0d6d20\$07ea7182@mcmaster.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Nick Kennedy opens his dark closet of smoked projects, and I know he's not alone. Why do homebrew projects tend to fail? By homebrew, I mean from a magazine article rather from a kit (including PCB and case).

Hey, I want to encourage homebrew, not scare folks off. We tend to start such projects with high expectations of success, and expect state-of-the-art performance as the magazine article suggests. But unlike the author, we use crude tools, and inadequate test equipment. And our knowledge of exactly how the circuit is SUPPOSED to work is sketchy. So when it doesn't work right off the bat, we're already in a hole.

We also can't judge the quality of the author's design. He/she may specify a specific component critical for good performance, and we unknowingly substitute something inadequate from the junkbox.

Or some stages may have high gain, where parts layout is critical (the author didn't mention this). Oscillations or instability results.

What we don't know is that perhaps 80% of attempts to build the author's circuit fail (the other 20% are engineers who modified the circuit or anticipated potential pitfalls).

When you hear of a high success rate (Jim Kortge's 2N2 receiver is an example), you've likely got a good, stable design. And the construction technique is well-described.

Seems to me the ARRL HANDBOOK folks also take pains to include projects that are well-described, and have been built by more than JUST the author.

We'd also do well to tackle projects that're within our grasp. Things that don't require a lab full of equipment to align, or troubleshoot.

Doug Hendricks of NORCAL has a good plan:
start off with a really simple project before
tackling a multi-stage receiver or transmitter.

You might pay a bit extra for a complete kit,
but you'll also have a MUCH better chance of
success. Generally, there are many folks
who've built kits that can help. And a kit
supplier desires that every kit that goes
out is successfully built - some offer back-up
support to ensure success. If you desire to
actually USE the result, this is a safe bet.

Doing true homebrew has its rewards. Nick tells
of the sweetness of success - its true that
building from scratch makes you a master of
your domain (I mean workbench).

At first, your goal should be "I built
this, and it WORKS!", rather than, "I need
a transceiver, and I think I can make it
myself". Another goal is to learn. Tackling
homebrew may not result in a working project,
but every project oughta teach you something.
Over the years, your success rate climbs as
you learn more. Been there, done that.

-Glen VE3DNL

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 11:57:32 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: w8diz@fpqrp.com, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131164] Re: SBL-1
Message-ID: <3D4808EC.CCDFCF71@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The kits Dan's Small Parts sells use the FT37-43 toroids. The problem
is in making the trifilar windings. If you can get small enough wire
already joined to make the trifilar windings you are ahead.

For kit use I would suggest biting the bullet and buying the commercial
product! It reduces any problems you may have with builder
differences! It's cheap insurance!

BTW, I don't understand how a totally passive device can have conversion

gain!

73

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 10:00:52 -0600
From: "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131165] Re: FS Drafting Tools was Re: Smith Chart Use [Drafting Compass]
Message-ID: <002c01c238ab\$72bf2dd0\$6401a8c0@greyrock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sold!

----- Original Message -----
From: "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2002 9:05 AM
Subject: FS Drafting Tools was Re: Smith Chart Use [Drafting Compass]

> This talk of drafting tools reminded me I still have a set (haven't
used
> it in years!), the case has a few dings but the instruments are in
good
> shape. Set includes large & small compass, and dividers. \$20 shipped
> CONUS
>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 12:02:04 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: unlisted-recipients;; (no To-header on input)
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131166] Most Wanted States - a thought
Message-ID: <3D4809FC.4DF63486@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Isn't your most needed state the one that you don't have?

As a side note, I tried for a long time to get an operating event started to work all states in a one year period simply by working the state QSO parties. They are still out there, every year! There is no excuse for not trying to work the ones you need!

73

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 11:29:11 -0400
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: kheimbach@ev1.net
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131167] Re: Purity of NC-20 output - How clean?
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20020731112911.007c0190@mailhost.ncia.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>
>In fact, the transmitter goes unstable at the slightest tweak of either
>TC-8 or TC-9. I have the VR-6 set for 3.3 watts output at 14.000 MHz

Karl,

Try turning the output LPF toroids at right angles to the way thier marked on the board. This will put them at right angles to the transmitter BPF toroids and reduce the coupling between them, which can cause oscillations. The usual symptom here is power goes up smoothy to a point while turning VR-6, then suddenly jumps up to full or more power out. (and makes a rather nasty looking signal on the scope)

72,
Steve, KD1JV
"Melt Solder"
White Mountains of New Hampshire
<http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 11:07:17 -0400
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131168] Re: Things that didn't work
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20020731110717.007ec830@mailhost.ncia.net>

Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Yeap, we've built or tried to build plenty of things that didn't work. We just don't talk about those, hi!

Back when we used to build a lot with point to point wiring, it could be layers deep. If it didn't work, at some point we'd strip it down to recycle parts. Once we got down a layer or two, inevitably, we'd find something that wasn't soldered and have to wonder if that was why it didn't work! Too late now...

72,
Steve, KD1JV
"Melt Solder"
White Mountains of New Hampshire
<http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 11:04:17 -0500
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: rattray@gpfn.sk.ca
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131169] Re: Flight of the Bumblebees - Preliminary Soapbox (Long)
Message-ID: <3D480A81.107BD039@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I worked about 20 stations on 20. Heard one weak one on 15 and nothing but noise on 40. After one hour, I had worked all the Bees that I could hear.

So, I agree with Bruce . . .not hundreds but maybe tens of participants.

73/72/oo, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13qe
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 56th year and it just keeps getting better!
QRP-L 1373 NETXQRP 6 SOC 262 COG 8 FPQRP 404 TEN-X 11771 I-LINK 11735
Icom IC-756PRO #02121 Kachina 505 DSP #91900556 Icom IC-765 #02437

Bruce Rattray wrote:

>
> After checking 10 & 15 & 40 mtrs constantly throughout the 4 hour period,
> the only band I heard signals on was 20 mtrs...of course my location is
> not the ideal one... ;-) ...and that's a fact...

>
> ...does this mean we just have to wait for propagation to be kind to us or
> have a Flight of the BBs with hundreds of participants on the air in
> order to saturate the ether with RF?...
>
> ...we all know about Mother Propagation but "hundreds of
> participants?"...I don't think so but wouldn't it be great eh?!...

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 11:14:15 -0500
From: "Frank Emens" <femens@hiwaay.net>
To: ke9v@yahoo.com
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131170] Re: Dummy Load
Message-ID: <3D47C687.6420.EABFD1@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

If you're looking for a low power dissipation, check out the terminators for Thin Ethernet cables. Should be available at most computer stores.

--
Frank Emens
femens@hiwaay.net

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 12:18:24 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: ke9v@yahoo.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131171] Re: Dummy Load
Message-ID: <3D480DD0.DF22252F@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The device in question is a terminator for computer lines. They can probably be had at Mouser or DigiKey. Warning, they may not handle too much power!

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 11:44:09 -0500
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: <AQRP@yahoogroups.com>, <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>,
<WCARC@yahoogroups.com>,
Subject: [131172] Austin TX Summerfest Ham Convention Sat., Fri. is QRP dinner,
Are you coming?
Message-ID: <005801c238b1\$7dcd5250\$4e100a0a@rohredt2000>

Hi folks,
The Austin TX Ham Radio Convention, (Summerfest) is this FRI. and SAT., Aug.
2 & 3!

Friday nite we have our traditional QRP no host dinner at Lone Star Cafe,
Lincoln Center, across IH 35 from the Red Lion Hotel site of the Convention.

Be there by 7:30. The usual plan is to take in the opening of the swap meet
at 6 PM, (indoors in Ball Room), then at 7:00 meet by the Registration
Tables and look for folks with QRP name tags, or just that usual "Look"!

We will go over to the cafe; it is on the West side, (side away from
hotel in Lincoln Center), so from the 290 Hwy by the Hotel, you cross IH 35,
and then turn right into Middle Fiskville Rd., to go up to about the center
of the Lincoln complex, where you will see Lone Star Cafe. We will be the
"Radio group" in the back room.

I need a head count by Thursday evening, 5 PM, if you are coming
to the dinner. (That is 2200 Zulu).

Remember, we have door prizes at the dinner, and at the forum on Sat.
Complete Summerfest forums schedule is on <repeater.org> web site at the
Summerfest link.

The Forum has three outstanding presentations, K5QLF, Fred Bonavita, on "The
Lowly Doublet, or IS IT?", and I hear he has several antennas that are good
QRP antlers.

We have next, Dr. Bob Rogers of Univ. Tx, with a Summerfest first, a
presentation on an
antenna that over comes antenna restricted neighborhoods with good
efficiency, The FLEX, folded helical conical antenna. Ever wanted to get on
160m or 80m with good efficiency but low profile? Live in a Condo? This
antenna uses its volume efficiently, to get quarter wave resonant elements
into either 0.1 or 0.01 wavelength linear dimensions. For 10m, you can work
out with only a 14 inch high antenna. Disguise it as a bush, and work 20m
DX! This may be the ultimate portable antenna.

Finally, in order to make those build it yourself projects, even without a
parts store nearby, the task of

finding parts is made easier by the experiences of Ed Popp K5BOT, speaking on
"No user serviceable parts". And did I say there will be door prizes, courtesy of K5FX and many donors from the International QRP Community whom we thank.

For the dinner, please let me know, (k5kvh@arrl.net), if you are coming and if you bring a guest, how many total of you there will be.
Thanks and 72, See You in Austin at Summerfest!
Stuart K5KVH

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 12:48:13 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: leinwebe@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131173] Re: Is homebrew for you?
Message-ID: <3D4814CD.265888EA@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Yes, why do homebrew projects fail? It seems to me they fail because the builders do not do enough research on the projects before they start to melt solder!

A full kit usually has had done this for you. The things that cause trouble are often provided fully assembled! Circuit boards have been built enough times to find out where the problems can occur. (Believe it or not, this is how factory assembled radios are designed too!)

Why do research on a project, hasn't the author already done that? Yes and no. Most authors show you the results of their work. You don't see the numerous breadboards and trials that went before!

Also authors make assumptions about you! They expect you are as experienced as they are. They take short cuts in describing circuits. Often there is not enough information to fully understand how a circuit is supposed to work! You are supposed to know that or find it out by yourself! Page space is limited, and in the case of magazines that pay for their articles, it costs money! You can go to the library and read up on the circuits used for free!

I fully agree with Doug Hendricks, start with a simple project and work

your way up. If the designer offers circuit boards buy them. It will be cheaper than etching your own!

Do everything to improve your odds of building a project that will work! Think.

73

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 18:12:37 +0100
From: "Leon Heller" <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
To: "Low Power" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131174] PLL and programmable logic
Message-ID: <DAV56KpDS7hx27kBncc000179ff@hotmail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I've designed a PCB for a 74HC4046 PLL and a Xilinx XC9536 CPLD. The 74HC4046 contains the VCO and phase detector, and the CPLD can be used for dividing the VCO output.

I intend to use it initially for a frequency standard locked to the 198 kHz BBC signal. It could also be locked to the 60 kHz Rugby signal or any other suitable standard signal. It's also ideal for learning about PLLs without having to mess about with programmable counters - just program the desired counter function into the CPLD.

The PCB is single-sided, and uses a through-hole socket for the CPLD (it's the PLCC version). It should be OK up to the maximum frequency the 74HC4046 is capable of.

I can supply a schematic, PCB details and artwork to anyone interested in building one of these.

Leon Heller, G1HSM
leon_heller@hotmail.com
http://www.geocities.com/leon_heller

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 10:12:27 -0700
From: "Dave Fifield" <dave@redhotradio.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131175] Re: Purity of NC-20 output - How clean?
Message-ID: <001901c238b5\$724c6340\$0400a8c0@AD6A>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Also, try removing C105 (2pF). This seems to clean up "hot"
PA's on some NC20's I have fixed.

72, Dave, AD6A

----- Original Message -----

From: "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2002 8:29 AM
Subject: Re: Purity of NC-20 output - How clean?

> >
> >In fact, the transmitter goes unstable at the slightest tweak of either
> >TC-8 or TC-9. I have the VR-6 set for 3.3 watts output at 14.000 MHz
>
> Karl,
>
> Try turning the output LPF toriods at right angles to the way thier marked
> on the board. This will put them at right angles to the transmitter BPF
> toriods and reduce the coupling between them, which can cause oscillations.
> The usual symptom here is power goes up smoothy to a point while turning
> VR-6, then suddenly jumps up to full or more power out. (and makes a
> rathier nasty looking signal on the scope)
>
>
> 72,
> Steve, KD1JV
> "Melt Solder"
> White Mountains of New Hampshire
> <http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 10:14:26 -0700
From: "Dave Fifield" <dave@redhotradio.com>
To: <w8diz@fpqrp.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131176] Re: SBL-1
Message-ID: <002301c238b5\$b930e2e0\$0400a8c0@AD6A>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Halted, a local store in silicon valley, has SBL-1's
for \$6.95 each (new, old stock). They are on the
web (www.halted.com) and do mail order.

72, Dave, AD6A

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 17:29:18 +0000
From: Garie Halstead <k8kfj@ntelos.net>
To: Barry N1EU <n1eu@yahoo.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131177] Re: Flight of the Bumblebees - Preliminary Soapbox (Long)
Message-ID: <3D47D81E.EC9BE244@ntelos.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

On Wednesday, 31 July 2002, N1EU wrote:

> Last year I made the comment: "15M sure seemed
> under-utilized, and there was quite good east
> coast/west coast propagation. Signals weren't overly
> strong, but the noise floor was unbelievably low."

Hello Barry. Just a couple of quick comments. 15m seemed pretty much
out of it here ... just a couple of weak signals on the entire band.
Obviously, that situation could be much different at other locations.
I notice some rather highly competitive individuals on this list
judging from their past scores in operating events. They're going to
start any contest on the band where's the propagation is the best
and where their time will be the most productively spent. On Sunday,
that band was 20m. For the rest of us who were there just to have
some fun and promote the sponsorship, 20m was where all the action was
(especially if one wanted to be kept fairly busy. This no doubt
kept band changes to a minimum for many (not wanting to see the QSO
rate drop).

> My suggestion would be to give double points for QSO's
> and a double multiplier for bees worked on 15M and 40M
> (and 10M?). It would be an interesting experiment to
> see how much activity might be shifted from 20M to
> other bands

That would certainly promote activity on the 2 other bands but it goes on the assumption that all competitors have all-band capability. I don't know that that's is the case in this year's FOBB. I worked one individual on the North Carolina coastline who was having a ball making lots of contacts using a 20m only rig. Should we penalize him for not having the ability to go to 15 for the big mult figures in your particular scenario?

I think this discussion points out the hard work that our sponsors do in attempting to keep the playing field as level as possible. I for one very much appreciate the work they do in that regard and don't envy their task.

BTW, many thanks for your contact on Sunday. On 20m. HI

72 //Gary -K8KFJ-
<Nestled somewhere in the West Virginia mountains>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 11:39:32 -0600 (CST)
From: Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
To: QRP-Canada <qrp-canada@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>,
Low Power Group <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131178] loop skywire wire size vs strength...
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0207311128240.28422-100000@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I'm considering trying a Loop Skywire around our small city lot...I would like it to be as stealthy as possible so I'd like to use small wire...I have a roll of #27 & #29 enamelled wire...I'm just wondering if this wire will be strong enough?...the configuration of the antenna will be rectangular and have approximately 300 feet of wire in it...

...I have a power line travelling kitty-corner across the backyard...this power line is approx 12 feet off the ground...this antenna, if I put it up, will be following the property line at an average height of 20 feet, except for where the power line enters the backyard...at this point, the antenna will be UNDER the power line...

..72/73 - Bruce (VE5RC+VE5QRP) QRP-C#1 QRP-L#886 ARCI#9683 Zombie#272
A-1 Operator Club - 10/10# 944 - QRP Borg#1 - Whiner#10 -
- VE5QRP SOC#11 - VE5RC SOC#12 - oo#148 - K2#2032 - COG#15 -

"QRP! How sweet it is!"

"I am da man wit "DAH" paddle!"

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 13:51:56 -0400
From: "Mike Boatright" <ko4wx@mindspring.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131179] K04WX - BB#6 Report (better late than never...)
Message-ID: <NFBBIILMKCMIIILGKAJMBLMENKCFAA.ko4wx@mindspring.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Had to fly out on business which delayed entering my BB report...

Is there a prize for the best weather at a BB operating location? On the summit of Black Rock Mountain, Georgia (3640'), the temperature was about 70F degrees, light breeze, blue sky and puffy white clouds. Gorgeous location, awesome view of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

K1 at 3W, Palm paddle, W3EDP at 20' (in the short trees on the summit). Coleman fold-out chair/day pack, radio, antenna (+ tennis ball), backup batteries, key, bud earphones and 1.5L of water weighed in at about 10 pounds.

Bands were pretty crummy, with deep QSB. Several 10 minute spurts of 4-5 Q's.

Totals: 40Q's x 22BB's x 3 = 2640 points.

72 de Mike, K04WX

Log:

BAND	DATE	UTC	CALL	SENT	RECEIVED
20CW	28/07/02	1725	AC6KN/BB	559 GA 8 529 CA 48	
20CW	28/07/02	1729	N4BP/BB	559 GA 8 299 FL 39	
20CW	28/07/02	1731	AA4XX/BB	559 GA 8 449 NC 114	
20CW	28/07/02	1737	N0UR/BB	559 GA 8 449 MN 55	
20CW	28/07/02	1740	N1EU/BB	559 GA 8 559 NY 116	
20CW	28/07/02	1743	N6MM/BB	559 GA 8 579 CA 57	
20CW	28/07/02	1752	N2CQ	559 GA 8 569 NJ 5W	
20CW	28/07/02	1754	N4BMI	559 GA 8 559 FL 5W	
20CW	28/07/02	1756	WB8RTJ	559 GA 8 559 OH 5W	

20CW	28/07/02	1757	W0CH	559	GA	8	559	AR	67
20CW	28/07/02	1758	AA50	559	GA	8	559	LA	5W
20CW	28/07/02	1800	KA8LLE	559	GA	8	559	OH	5W
20CW	28/07/02	1801	K8KFJ	559	GA	8	579	OH	5W
20CW	28/07/02	1804	K4FB/BB	559	GA	8	559	FL	8
20CW	28/07/02	1805	WA4CIT/BB	559	GA	8	559	NC	77
20CW	28/07/02	1811	N2XE/BB	559	GA	8	589	NY	125
20CW	28/07/02	1815	K3NY	559	GA	8	549	MD	5W
20CW	28/07/02	1818	K4MF/BB	559	GA	8	579	FL	135
20CW	28/07/02	1822	K5HWT/BB	559	GA	8	569	TX	64
20CW	28/07/02	1825	W3BB0/BB	559	GA	8	559	PA	14
20CW	28/07/02	1827	N7SR/BB	559	GA	8	579	MN	30
20CW	28/07/02	1829	N8WE	559	GA	8	579	OH	3W
20CW	28/07/02	1837	AA2NL	559	GA	8	559	NJ	4W
20CW	28/07/02	1905	K0ZK/BB	559	GA	8	559	ME	111
20CW	28/07/02	1910	AE4GX/BB	559	GA	8	559	GA	10
40CW	28/07/02	1951	WA4GIR	559	GA	8	459	NC	5W
40CW	28/07/02	1953	KW4JS	559	GA	8	559	TN	37
40CW	28/07/02	1954	WA9TPZ/BB	559	GA	8	579	IN	110
40CW	28/07/02	1956	W9FNB/BB	559	GA	8	579	IN	109
40CW	28/07/02	2000	VE3GWN/BB	559	GA	8	559	ON	68
40CW	28/07/02	2005	K8KFJ	559	GA	8	559	WV	5W
40CW	28/07/02	2006	WB6BWZ	559	GA	8	559	GA	5W
40CW	28/07/02	2013	W4ED	559	GA	8	559	GA	5W
40CW	28/07/02	2018	W0CH/BB	559	GA	8	559	AR	67
40CW	28/07/02	2020	AF4PP	559	GA	8	599	GA	5W
40CW	28/07/02	2025	AD4S	559	GA	8	559	GA	5W
40CW	28/07/02	2044	KA3MHM	559	GA	8	579	PA	5W
40CW	28/07/02	2045	WA6LTU	559	GA	8	549	GA	10W
40CW	28/07/02	2047	KA8LLE	559	GA	8	559	OH	5W
40CW	28/07/02	2057	AE4GX/BB	559	GA	8	579	GA	10

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 18:00:00 +0000
 From: "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
 To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
 Subject: [131180] Re: Is homebrew for you?
 Message-ID: <F193IbKy5Ekfq79PtNE00006994@hotmail.com>
 Mime-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Glen Leinweber (leinwebe@mcmaster.ca)
 asks "Is homebrew for you?":

Nick Kennedy opens his dark closet of smoked
 projects, and I know he's not alone. Why

do homebrew projects tend to fail? By homebrew,
I mean from a magazine article rather than from
a kit (including PCB and case).

....

Homebrew is like cooking. One of the things that really puts me off are articles/designs/recipes rich on ingredients but lacking in technique. After a diet of smoked projects and crappy food, one quickly realizes that knowledge of technique is more important than designs and recipes. I started to teach myself to cook after I got sick of eating hot dogs and macaroni and cheese as a student (some people circumvent this problem by getting married but even then it helps to know how to cook ... for several reasons not to be addressed in this posting). Now you can go out and get yourself a cookbook that calls for all kinds of esoteric ingredients like European transistors or Oriental semiconductors, rarely to be found except in such exotic lands. Or you can take the techniques approach and study examples from such books as those written by the late W1FB. I just LOVE that kind of stuff. It is the same with cooking. When I make up a batch of Gumbo or stir-fried whatchamacallit I don't use a recipe. Exact quantities of this or that don't matter so much as being able to recognize what looks right and how it should be prepared given what you've got. Same with the homebrewing. If you can't recognize what something is supposed to do then you dang well better pray that your parts are in spec and that any substitutions that you made are not critical components.

Ahhh! Ah! Too, Spicy!!!

Brad

Chat with friends online, try MSN Messenger: <http://messenger.msn.com>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 10:59:43 -0700
From: "Tracy Markham" <tracy@bytemark.com>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Message-ID: <GNEOLGDJDOPEALHJMKLCKEPNCHAA.tracy@bytemark.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Any one have a copy of Elektor Electronics, November 1991?

There's a loop antenna article in there I'd like a copy of.

Thanks!

Tracy N4LGH

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 11:14:51 -0700
From: "Doug Hauff" <dhauff@digitalputty.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131182] OT - Windows 95 on floppies?
Message-ID: <010301c238be\$456fed20\$30393442@fix.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hey gang i scored a nice little laptop at Tuthill, a 486 with a 1.5 gig hard drive, but empty - DOS but no Windows....anyone have an early copy of Windows 95 on floppies i could beg/borrow/rent/buy/copy?

TNX & 72

Doug KE6RIE

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 14:15:41 -0400
From: "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
To: "'George, W5YR'" <w5yr@att.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131183] RE: PSK31 BW
Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CC027E341D@kahless.arrlhq.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

George wrote:

>I can't see the colors of the plot, but from the spectra I see the two
?tones at +/- 15.625 Hz in "green" for a total bandwidth of 31.25 Hz.

>I think that the wider spectrum in "blue" is for the condition of "random
>data."

I used the spectrograph for random data--wish I still understood
all the math in the communications engineering course I took.

Principles of Communication Engineering by Wozencraft and Jacobs
was the textbook--a good reference if you want to study the math
underlying Shannon's theorem.

73--Zack W1VT

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 14:17:48 -0400
From: Haines Brown <brownh@hartford-hwp.com>
To: w5yr@att.net
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131184] Re: Smith Chart Use
Message-ID: <200207311817.g6VIHmN26603@langhans.hartford-hwp.com>

What a really nice application! Too bad it is in a proprietary format
(Windows). If it were open software, the source would also be
available, and one could easily create a Java version or port to Linux.

Haine Brown KB1GRM@arrl.net

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 20:32:34 +0200
From: Ingo Meyer DK3RED <dk3red@t-online.de>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131185] Re: Dummy Load
Message-ID: <3D482D42.B271B6F1@t-online.de>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello Jeff,

> I am looking for a dummy load that is built onto a BNC connector.
>
> I recall that somebody was selling them, but can't find the info now.

Maybe the "Common Cents" QRP Dummy Load by Dave Ottenburg WA2DJN
(published in the winter issue 2000 of the NJ QRP club magazine "QRP
Homebrewer").

Please look at the "QHB Extra" sites (www.njqrp.org/qhbextra/) with all photos and pictures from the QHB.

It is only a BNC connector with two cents (yes money!) and 4 51 ohms resistors.

--

72/73 de Ingo, DK3RED Don't forget: the fun is the power!

dk3red@t-online.de <http://www.t-online.de/~dk3red>
DL-QRP-AG #824 <http://www.dl-qrp-ag.de>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 14:36:11 -0400
From: bennw7dx@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131186] Tuning Suggestions?
Message-ID: <03E3A32D.7D40C54A.00937501@aol.com>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Howdy -

I tried sending this message a couple days ago, but it wouldn't go through, I changed some things in AOL, so hopefully it works this time...
It's been quite some time since I've posted anything to the list. Now that i'm on summer vacation, I have some time to start playing with the radios again. I enjoyed reading the BB reports and I'm inspired to get out and do some /P operating. I have a question about SWR indicators. I have the MP-1 antenna, which is very easy to set up, however, when using a monoband rig such as a NC-20, I have no way of knowing the SWR. I would like some suggestions on what I can do. What I don't want to do is bring a heavy bulky meter along with me when I go hiking or something. One thing I can think of is to build an LED SWR bridge, like in the ZM-2 tuner, but I'm not sure how well that would work. Another thought... should I just mark the MP-1 coil at specific bands, and leave it at that and let the rig take it? I would really be interested in different thoughts of what I should do. Maybe theres a small lightweight meter that I don't know about.

Thanks,
Ben - NW7DX
Redmond, WA

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 14:58:39 -0400 (Eastern Daylight Time)
From: "Mike WA8BXN" <hubby2k@hotmail.com>
To: <bennw7dx@aol.com>, <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131187] Re: Tuning Suggestions?

Message-ID: <3D48335F.000038.99637@pentium>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: Text/Plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

LED based SWR bridges work great for that purpose. A resistive bridge is very simple and also protects the rig while you are adjusting the antenna.
73/72 - Mike WA8BXN

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 14:17:59 -0500
From: Dave Sjolin <sjolin@swbell.net>
To: ratttray@gpfn.sk.ca,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131188] Re: loop skywire wire size vs strength...
Message-ID: <00d801c238c6\$fcblb560\$8bded840@DaveSjolin>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Do you really want to run your antenna where it can come in contact with the power lines if either the antenna or power line should fall?

As far as strength of wire, take into consideration whether or not you experience freezing rain in your area as ice will cause wire to stretch, weaken and eventually break. Also what kind of supports are you going to use? If you are using trees and wind will cause the trees to sway somewhat, then remember that too will put pressure on the line and cause it to eventually break. The smaller the wire, the more likely these two factors are likely to be a problem.

73 de Dave, N0IT

>
> I'm considering trying a Loop Skywire around our small city lot...I would
> like it to be as stealthy as possible so I'd like to use small wire...I
> have a roll of #27 & #29 enamelled wire...I'm just wondering if this wire
> will be strong enough?...the configuration of the antenna will be
> rectangular and have approximately 300 feet of wire in it...
>
> ...I have a power line travelling kitty-corner across the backyard...this
> power line is approx 12 feet off the ground...this antenna, if I put it
> up, will be following the property line at an average height of 20 feet,
> except for where the power line enters the backyard...at this point, the
> antenna will be UNDER the power line...

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:46:50 -0400
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131189] Re: Is homebrew for you?
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20020731154650.007abea0@mailhost.ncia.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Not having a 'Scope is probably the biggest reason people can't get stuff to work. Without one, you really are fumbling around in the dark without a clue as to what is or what is not going on!

72,
Steve, KD1JV
"Melt Solder"
White Mountains of New Hampshire
<http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:00:08 -0500
From: "Bill Coady" <N9LAE@amsat.org>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131190] Newbie Antenna
Message-ID: <200207311500080780.002BDD19@smtp.isplite.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Hello Everyone:

I hate to open what I assume is a rather large can of worms, but there has been some discussion around the fringes of this question...so here goes...

Being new to HF I am looking to put up an antenna, and so would welcome ideas and suggestions. I do have a few restrictions that I am dealing with, however. First is lack of budget. I spent the budget on the radio (I know you are not supposed to do that, but I did....) so the antenna will have to be homebrew. Second is lack of height. Basically I have a ranch house where the highest point is about 20 feet. The two tallest=

trees in the yard are 30 foot pines where the top 10 feet are pretty= useless as supports. Third, I have a 2 year old son who is into= everything(!) so anything like a sloper, etc. cannot go to ground level= but would have to be up at least 5 to 10 feet. Fourth, I have a general= coverage transceiver and would like some multiband coverage so I can= change bands when conditions change, rather than going to bed.

So, the question is...given those restrictions what antenna would you put= up?

I know you have probably had this discussion before, but here it is again= :)

73
Bill, N9LAE
Wausau, WI

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:06:04 -0500
From: Karl Kanalz <kkanalz@gcecispc.com>
To: "'pshores@socal.rr.com'" <pshores@socal.rr.com>,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131191] RE: Yaesu FT-709R
Message-ID: <01C238A4.F12DD560@KKANALZ>

Peter,
The FT-709R is pretty ancient, and as I recall, it's not only a "power hog" (eats batteries!), but the channel spacing can't be changed (unlike some more modern rigs).

I'm glad you "picked it up" - it's pretty heavy (again, compared to more modern rigs) - but I think you may have invested, however few dollars it was, in an almost-useless rig for California repeater channelization.

Karl K - W8TIF
(ex-W8TIF/6)
McKinney, Texas

-----Original Message-----
From: Peter Shores [SMTP:pshores@socal.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2002 10:17 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Yaesu FT-709R

Hi,

I picked up this hand held for my son. I did not get operation manual. I would like to know how to change the channel spacing /steps. Currently radio is in 25KHz mode and I have tried various key pad moves to change it, but no luck. Southern Calif. repeaters are on 20KHz splits and this is somewhat of a problem.

Any info /help is appreciated.

Thanks

Peter AD6TN

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 13:35:57 -0700 (PDT)
From: Bill ROWLETT <kc4atu@yahoo.com>
To: N9LAE@amsat.org,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131192] Re: Newbie Antenna
Message-ID: <20020731203557.12187.qmail@web14207.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Under those conditions, I would go with a 180 meter dipole feed with 300ohm twinlead and hung as an inverted "V" using one pine tree for the center support. The ends can be mounted to 2x2 wooden post at 8', son proof. Use a small gage wire and the 300ohm feed and the weak pine tops should be just fine for a support. The ant. will be light in weight. Keep the feed vertical at first so as not to have a pull in any direction other than down with just gravity providing the force.

If the pines prove to be too weak, a 30 foot pole can be constructed out of 2x2's and strapped to one of the trees, or the end of the house.

Many different ways to do this, just needs some thought and a little help in getting the old gray matter going. Hope this does just that.

Good luck and have fun.

73, Bill kc4atu

Do You Yahoo!?

Yahoo! Health - Feel better, live better
<http://health.yahoo.com>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:32:36 -0500
From: "Pederson, Glenn" <gpeder@elnet.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
Subject: [131193] Re: Smith Chart Use
Message-ID: <3D480314.16482.9F38DF2@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

Karl,

After you get good at using the Smith Chart with compass and ruler,
you might try the free Smith Chart computer program available at:

<http://www.sss-mag.com/zip/smith182.zip>

I have found it very easy to use despite the help files not being in
english. Also note that this free version has the "Save" function
disabled.

73,

Glenn Pederson, WB9QIQ
gpeder@elnet.com

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:31:37 -0500
From: Karl Kanalz <kkanalz@gcecisp.com>
To: "'alihernlem@hotmail.com'" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131194] RE: Is homebrew for you & cooking
Message-ID: <01C238A8.3EF80CE0@KKANALZ>

Hello, Brad -

Well, when I married MY wife, she couldn't boil water without burning it!

Now that she CAN, she calls it "soup" !! (big grin)

Better stay away from her genuine Mexican salsa (hand-roaster chilis and tomatos), though, 'cause it's potent and delicious!

Karl K - W8TIF
McKinney, Texas

-----Original Message-----

From: Brad Hernlem [SMTP:alihernlem@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2002 1:00 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: Is homebrew for you?

<snip>

Homebrew is like cooking. One of the things that really puts me off are articles/designs/recipes rich on ingredients but lacking in technique. After a diet of smoked projects and crappy food, one quickly realizes that knowledge of technique is more important than designs and recipes.

I started to teach myself to cook after I got sick of eating hot dogs and macaroni and cheese as a student (some people circumvent this problem by getting married but even then it helps to know how to cook ... for several reasons not to be addressed in this posting). Now you can go out and get yourself a cookbook that calls for all kinds of esoteric ingredients like European transistors or Oriental semiconductors, rarely to be found except in such exotic lands. Or you can take the techniques approach and study examples from such books as those written by the late W1FB. I just LOVE that kind of stuff. It is the same with cooking. When I make up a batch of Gumbo or stir-fried whatchamacallit I don't use a recipe. Exact quantities of this or that don't matter so much as being able to recognize what looks right and how it should be prepared given what you've got. Same with the homebrewing. If you can't recognize what something is supposed to do then you dang well better pray that your parts are in spec and that any substitutions that you made are not critical components.

Ahhh! Ah! Too, Spicy!!!

Brad

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:41:24 -0500
From: "Pederson, Glenn" <gpeder@elnet.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>

Subject: [131195] Re: Smith Chart Use
Message-ID: <3D480524.11824.9FB9D57@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

Karl,

Here are the two files I normally use to print Smith Charts. Both are PDF files:

<http://www.tfe.umu.se/courses/elektro/HFteknik/01v03/tema3/smith.pdf>
http://ee.tamu.edu/~eml/smith_rot.pdf

The second one listed has both the impedance and admittance grids plotted on it -- this avoids having to flip 180 degrees on the chart to go from impedance to admittance and vice-versa.

Enjoy!

Glenn Pederson, WB9QIQ
gpeder@elnet.com

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 16:51:25 -0400
From: "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@cox.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131196] Vibroplex FOlks - A Great Experience
Message-ID: <020c01c238d4\$0961c5e0\$6401a8c0@boomer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I just had a great experience with the folks at Vibroplex this morning. I purchased one of their Blue Racer standard models a little while ago after noting a QRP-L posting. Unfortunately, the bug arrived with the dot spring broke. I found the pieces in the packing, and suspected that it may have been a manufacturing defect. Also, the thin leaf in the lever arm was loose so that it was "drooping" slightly. I was fairly certain that I could re-set the two rivets holding the leaf into the lever assembly, but was hesitant to try it. The key is in immaculate condition. (Clearly, the

previous owner hadn't sent over 20 wpm with it!)

The Vibroplex response? "We have had some problems with fragile dot springs..." A new dot spring and a new lever assembly via first class mail immediately w/o charge!

Man! It sure is nice to deal with folks like this that are willing to stand behind their products 100%. Add them to the list of good guys like Steve Weber and Dave Benson.

No financial yah-de-yah...

73 de Lee
KM4YY

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:05:31 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131197] Smith Chart Answers all questions
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0207311504500.10657-100000@Daisy.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

The Smith Chart sure does show you what's going on. Just as Jim Duffey said, once you plot what is going on you will see why there is reflection at the output port of the tuner.

I learned about the SWR circle. If you plot the load impedance on the Smith Chart you can draw a circle with your compass that is centered on $R = 1$ and passes through the load impedance. This SWR circle is defined by the load as is proper.

I just used George W5YR's simulated antenna impedance which was found to be $211 + j581$ on 40 meters. Normalizing to the 450 ohm line gives $r=0.47$ and $x=1.29$. With this load plotted on the Chart I drew the SWR circle and found the SWR to be about 7.5:1.

Then I calculated the feed line impedance at the tuner assuming the 450 ohm line was 0.31 wavelengths long. The impedance at the point 0.31 waves back to the Generator on the SWR circle was $0.9 - j2.2$ as best I can read it. For maximum power transfer to the feed line the tuner must have an

impedance of $0.9 + j2.2$.

Next it is assumed since the SWR is high that some of the incident transmitter power will be reflected at the antenna feed point. This power will travel back down the feed line to the tuner output. For this case the Generator is the antenna impedance and the tuner output port is the load. When I rotated the impedance from the antenna to the tuner it turned out to be $0.8 + j2.2$ and a poor match to the tuner output. So this will cause a re-reflection of the reflected power back up the feed line along with the incident power from the transmitter.

If you put a power meter in the feed line, you will read the incident and the re-reflected power which is MORE than your transmitter is putting out. I borrowed an antenna handbook from Bill Brown W5UMQ and he told me about a friend who is making a super power 75 meter mobile. He has a center loaded whip with the center loading coil made of 1/4 inch copper pipe! His antenna impedance at resonance was measured to be 15 ohms. He has a Icom 706 driving an Icom amp that makes 400 watts, and a feed line of RG-213 about 12 feet long and he put a Bird Watt meter in the line between the tuner and the antenna and was measuring 520 watts! He re-checked the amp and it was working properly. He called Bill Brown who told him to put the power meter between the amp and the tuner. When he did it he read 400 watts as expected.

Now some day I will measure my 450 ohm ribbon length and with my MFJ Antenna Analyzer measure what the real antenna impedance is with the Smith Chart...a real useful device for a Ham QRP operator who needs all 5 watts on the antenna. But for sure I now understand why my antenna works, and understand how to use a Smith Chart again.

--

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 17:04:37 -0400
From: ken cubilo electric <kce@chartermi.net>
To: lmairs@cox.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131198] Re: Vibroplex FOlks - A Great Experience
Message-ID: <3D4850E5.1814FDC4@chartermi.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I agree. I have had dealings with the great people there in the past and its wonderful to work with people so committed to customer satisfaction. Too bad certain other companies don't learn from this
ken w8ob

Lee Mairs wrote:

>
> I just had a great experience with the folks at Vibroplex this morning. I
> purchased one of their Blue Racer standard models a little while ago after
> noting a QRP-L posting. Unfortunately, the bug arrived with the dot spring
> broke. I found the pieces in the packing, and suspected that it may have
> been a manufacturing defect. Also, the thin leaf in the lever arm was loose
> so that it was "drooping" slightly. I was fairly certain that I could
> re-set the two rivets holding the leaf into the lever assembly, but was
> hesitant to try it. The key is in immaculate condition. (Clearly, the
> previous owner hadn't sent over 20 wpm with it!)

>
> The Vibroplex response? "We have had some problems with fragile dot
> springs..." A new dot spring and a new lever assembly via first class mail
> immediately w/o charge!

>
> Man! It sure is nce to deal with folks like this that are willing to stand
> behind their products 100%. Add them to the list of good guys like Steve
> Weber and Dave Benson.

>
> No financial yah-de-yah...

>
> 73 de Lee
> KM4YY

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 14:03:38 -0700 (PDT)
From: Gary Slagel <gdslagel@yahoo.com>
To: QRP L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: N9LAE@amsat.org
Subject: [131199] Re: Newbie Antenna
Message-ID: <20020731210338.94938.qmail@web11602.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Bill,

You didn't mention if ur new rig has a built in tuner.
If it does, build yourself a dipole about any length
you can make it, feed it with balanced line (tv ribbon
is cheap) and you should be able to tune it on most
bands you want to use.

If you DON'T have a tuner and you need to keep it cheap.... you can make a 20/40 meter fan dipole very easily. Basically, cut two 1/4 wave elements for 20 (about 16'6") and two 1/4 wave elements for 40 (about 33') and attach one of each to the center insulator. Connect some coax to the center insulator and you've got an antenna. Should be easy to adjust the antenna for 20 and 40 and you might be able to squeeze 15 meters out of it also. I did this for my dad and was able to keep the whole antenna on top of the house. Put up a 6' mast in the center of the house to support the center and keep it pretty unobtrusive.

Let me know if you need more details and I'll walk you through it.

GL, Gary

--- Bill Coady <N9LAE@amsat.org> wrote:

> Hello Everyone:

>

> I hate to open what I assume is a rather large can
> of worms, but there has been some discussion around
> the fringes of this question....so here goes...

>

> Being new to HF I am looking to put up an antenna,
> and so would welcome ideas and suggestions. I do
> have a few restrictions that I am dealing with,
> however. First is lack of budget. I spent the
> budget on the radio (I know you are not supposed to
> do that, but I did....) so the antenna will have to
> be homebrew. Second is lack of height. Basically I
> have a ranch house where the highest point is about
> 20 feet. The two tallest trees in the yard are 30
> foot pines where the top 10 feet are pretty useless
> as supports. Third, I have a 2 year old son who is
> into everything(!) so anything like a sloper, etc.
> cannot go to ground level but would have to be up at
> least 5 to 10 feet. Fourth, I have a general
> coverage transceiver and would like some multiband
> coverage so I can change bands when conditions
> change, rather than going to bed.

>

> So, the question is...given those restrictions what
> antenna would you put up?

>

> I know you have probably had this discussion

> before, but here it is again :)
>
>
> 73
> Bill, N9LAE
> Wausau, WI
>

=====

Gary Slagel/N0SXX
Conifer, CO 80433
gdslagel@yahoo.com
Personal Website: <http://gdslagel.bravepages.com>

Do You Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Health - Feel better, live better
<http://health.yahoo.com>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 17:04:01 -0400
From: dmaliniak@penton.com
To: dk3red@t-online.de
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Message-ID: <OFF2120328.F175A287-0N85256C07.00736838-85256C07.0073B966@penton.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

> I am looking for a dummy load that is built onto a BNC connector.
>
> I recall that somebody was selling them, but can't find the info now.

Maybe the "Common Cents" QRP Dummy Load by Dave Ottenburg WA2DJN
<snip>
It is only a BNC connector with two cents (yes money!) and 4 51
ohms resistors.

Ingo (and Jeff)

Or, if you're *really* cheap like me and have the material available, you
can use two little discs cut from scraps of copper-clad instead of pennies.
:-)
By the way, I used six 2W, 300-ohm resistors in my version. I think you
meant four 200-ohm resistors?

72,
David, AD2A
Glen Rock, NJ

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:15:47 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: "Pederson, Glenn" <gpeder@elnet.com>
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131201] Re: Smith Chart Use
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0207311513200.10657-1000000@Daisy.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Thanks Glenn, but right now I plan to rotate my regular Smith Chart. And a program to do a Smith Chart on Windows I can't use because I don't have Microsoft Office.

On Wed, 31 Jul 2002, Pederson, Glenn wrote:

> Karl,
>
> Here are the two files I normally use to print Smith Charts. Both
> are PDF files:
>
> <http://www.tfe.umu.se/courses/elektro/HFteknik/01v03/tema3/smith.pdf>
> http://ee.tamu.edu/~eml/smith_rot.pdf
>
> The second one listed has both the impedance and admittance grids
> plotted on it -- this avoids having to flip 180 degrees on the chart
> to go from impedance to admittance and vice-versa.
>
> Enjoy!
>
>
>
>
> Glenn Pederson, WB9QIQ
> gpeder@elnet.com
>
>

--
Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:10:50 -0600
From: Doug <doug@yycsi.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131202] Wyoming for QRP'ers?
Message-ID: <3D485259.3D411CC9@yycsi.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I've seen some comments stating a need for a qso from WY to fill out your WAS awards. If there's sufficient interest, I'd go mobile down to Yellowstone Park for a few hours and work as many as I can on CW from my pickup.

It's 80 miles one way from my home, so want to make it worth the trip. Any takers?
Probably go in Sept after the kids go back to school.

73

Doug, K7YD
Livingston, MT

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:22:34 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: Haines Brown <brownh@hartford-hwp.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131203] Re: Smith Chart Use
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0207311521040.10657-1000000@Daisy.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Haines I'm using linux and both the Post Script and .pdf form work fine on linux windows and mac's.

On Wed, 31 Jul 2002, Haines Brown wrote:

> What a really nice application! Too bad it is in a proprietary format
> (Windows). If it were open software, the source would also be
> available, and one could easily create a Java version or port to Linux.
>
> Haine Brown KB1GRM@arrl.net
>

--
Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 21:14:17 +0000
From: "Alan Fryer" <N3BJ@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131204] N3BJ Fox Announcement
Message-ID: <0E66PmcarcR4ZDgC81T00004496@hotmail.com>

Hello Hounds !

I'll be one of the Foxes tomorrow nite (about 29 hours from now) and hope to work you all. I'll be on 14.055 +/- QRM, listening up 1 or so.

I will make a special effort in the second hour to dig out stations that are weak or at ESP levels due to propagation.

20M has been up and down lately, so keep the faith - hope to better my 73 Qs in the last stint.

Happy Hunting !

Alan, N3BJ
Bent Mountain, VA (near Roanoke, VA)

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:25:33 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: Doug Hauff <dhauff@digitalputty.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131205] Re: OT - Windows 95 on floppies?
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0207311524041.10657-100000@Daisy.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Doug find a couple of networking cards, one for your big computer and one for your laptop. Then you can install windows over that.

On Wed, 31 Jul 2002, Doug Hauff wrote:

> Hey gang i scored a nice little laptop at Tuthill, a 486 with a 1.5 gig hard
> drive, but empty - DOS but no Windows....anyone have an early copy of
> Windows 95 on floppies i could beg/borrow/rent/buy/copy?

>

> TNX & 72

>

> Doug KE6RIE

>

>

>

--

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 17:21:09 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: alihernlem@hotmail.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131206] Re: Is homebrew for you?
Message-ID: <3D4854C5.75B066E4@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, you have the right ideas. Esoteric parts should be avoided until you can master the basic ones. You shouldn't be messing with exotic spices until you have mastered salt and pepper!

Where many homebrewers go wrong is they have built a few kits and think they know it all, or they assume everything is just a big kit! They pick a project from their favorite magazine and jump in. More often than not they have a smoking mess on their hands.

If, instead they had spent some time learning they would not make those mistakes. BTW, this applies to professional engineers as much as to

home builders. They don't teach homebrewing in college, just as they don't teach mechanical assembly there either!

73

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:32:17 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: Brian Kassel <bkassel@mato.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131207] RE: [131072] RE: Most Wanted States = *Wyoming*
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0207311528050.10657-1000000@Daisy.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Brian can't you park your RV on the state line and give each person both states? Some many years ago I and friends operated from the 4 corners memorial which is a common point for New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado and Utah. We got a lot of cards!

On Wed, 31 Jul 2002, Brian Kassel wrote:

> Folks:
>
> If WY isn't at the top of the "States Most Wanted" list, it is
> certainly in the top 5. South Dakota is also fairly rare, at least in

--
Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 17:34:20 -0400
From: Haines Brown <brownh@hartford-hwp.com>
To: gpeder@elnet.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [131208] Re: Smith Chart Use
Message-ID: <200207312134.g6VLYK527622@langhans.hartford-hwp.com>

Anyone know of any open source code for a Smith program?

Haines Brown

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 16:49:10 -0500
From: "Michael Melland" <w9wis@charter.net>
To: <lmairs@cox.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131209] Re: Vibroplex F0lks - A Great Experience
Message-ID: <001d01c238dc\$1abc3de0\$3f20be42@computer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Speaking of Vibroplex and the Blue Racer 2000 I have one "as new" for sale. Got it as a gift the year they came out (1999 I think) and don't have the time to master it.... although it sure is pretty. With the "Bug Tamer" kit and weights to slow it down to under 15 wpm <grin> asking \$150 shipped.

Mike, W9WIS

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:56:29 -0600
From: "John_Evans" <jae Evans@codenet.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131210] RE: [131072] RE: Most Wanted States = *Wyoming*
Message-ID: <200207311556.AA49414186@mail.codenet.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Parking the radio setup right on the Four Corners would be very interesting - I'd like to read about it in the papers afterwards !!!!!

72 - john - n0hj

----- Original Message -----
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
Reply-To: k5di@zianet.com
Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:32:17 -0600 (MDT)

>
>Hi Brian can't you park your RV on the state line and give each person
>both states? Some many years ago I and friends operated from the 4
>corners memorial which is a common point for New Mexico, Arizona,
>Colorado and Utah. We got a lot of cards!

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 16:32:11 -0600
From: "P.Ermisch" <ermisch@usa.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [131211] Re: [Wyoming for QRP'ers?]
Message-ID: <20020731223211.14016.qmail@uwdvg007.cms.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Also, listening to County Hunters Net today on 14.0565, there was a mobile
running multiple WY counties. Heard Washakie county but can't remember the
other. He couldn't hear me though - either QRP or QRO from Colorado. From my
experience, WY is fairly common on CHN during the summer.

Paul KB0LUR

Doug <doug@ycsi.net> wrote:

> I've seen some comments stating a need for a qso from WY to fill out your
WAS

> awards. If there's sufficient interest, I'd go mobile down to Yellowstone
Park

> for

> a few hours and work as many as I can on CW from my pickup.

> =

> It's 80 miles one way from my home, so want to make it worth the trip. =
Any

> takers?

> Probably go in Sept after the kids go back to school.

> =

> 73

> =

> Doug, K7YD

> Livingston, MT

> =

> =

End of QRP-L Digest 2633
